

REAPPORTIONMENT PUBLIC HEARING

SEPTEMBER 6, 2001 - 6:00 P.M.

SOUTH COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

16700 JOG ROAD

DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA

REPORTED BY:

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DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE</p> <p>2 SENATOR MANDY DAWSON</p> <p>3 SENATOR RON KLEIN</p> <p>4 SENATOR JACK LATVALA</p> <p>5 SENATOR DEBBY P. SANDERSON</p> <p>6 SENATOR DEBBIE WASSERMAN-SCHULTZ</p> <p>7 SENATOR DANIEL WEBSTER</p> <p>8 REPRESENTATIVE RANDY JOHN BALL</p> <p>9 REPRESENTATIVE ANNE M. GANNON</p> <p>10 REPRESENTATIVE BEV KILMER</p> <p>11 REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD MACHEK</p> <p>12 REPRESENTATIVE CONNIE MACK</p> <p>13 REPRESENTATIVE MITCH NEEDELMAN</p> <p>14 REPRESENTATIVE TIMOTHY M. RYAN</p> <p>15 REPRESENTATIVE JOHN P. SEILER</p> <p>16 REPRESENTATIVE IRVING L. SLOSBERG</p> <p>17 REPRESENTATIVE MARK WEISSMAN</p> <p>18 REPRESENTATIVE ROGER B. WISHNER</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We can't hear you.</p> <p>2 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: -- the census results in this</p> <p>3 region and the state. The rest is reserved for you, the</p> <p>4 citizens.</p> <p>5 Every ten years after completion of the updated</p> <p>6 national census, the Constitution requires the Florida</p> <p>7 Legislature to redraw boundaries of all the districts of</p> <p>8 the Florida House of Representatives --</p> <p>9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you speak up?</p> <p>10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We can't hear anybody, speak</p> <p>11 up.</p> <p>12 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: The audience has said they can't</p> <p>13 hear. If the audience will be quiet, then you will be able</p> <p>14 to hear.</p> <p>15 The Constitution requires the Florida Legislature to</p> <p>16 redraw the boundaries of all the districts of the Florida</p> <p>17 House of Representatives, the Florida Senate and Florida's</p> <p>18 Congressional districts. The Legislature will take up this</p> <p>19 task in the next legislative session which begins January</p> <p>20 22nd, 2002 and ends March 22nd, 2002. The districts that</p> <p>21 we draw will first be used in the November 2002 elections.</p> <p>22 Redistricting is the central element of our</p> <p>23 representative democracy. We take this on with humility</p> <p>24 and due regard for the importance of this difficult job.</p> <p>25 We are also committed to this process that it will be fair</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 PROCEEDINGS</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: I'm Daniel Webster from Senate</p> <p>4 District 12 and I'm the chairman of the Senate Committee on</p> <p>5 Reapportionment. It is my pleasure to welcome you to this</p> <p>6 public hearing, one of many we will be holding through the</p> <p>7 summer and fall throughout Florida.</p> <p>8 Let me first explain the procedure we will be using</p> <p>9 throughout these public hearings. This is a public</p> <p>10 hearing, the sole and only purpose of which is to hear from</p> <p>11 you, the public, on matters of redistricting. This is not</p> <p>12 a committee meeting. We will not be taking legislative</p> <p>13 action in this or any subsequent public hearing.</p> <p>14 Instead, this is the public's forum where we have the</p> <p>15 opportunity to receive citizen input about their electoral</p> <p>16 districts. This is not a time for legislative debate. All</p> <p>17 Representatives and Senators will have numerous</p> <p>18 opportunities in subsequent committee hearings and floor</p> <p>19 debates to address all the members' concerns and wishes.</p> <p>20 Today, however, is for our constituents. We must not</p> <p>21 diminish their voice by taking up their valuable time today</p> <p>22 in debate.</p> <p>23 Following my brief remarks, counsel will give a</p> <p>24 general overview of legal considerations in redistricting.</p> <p>25 Staff will then provide some specific information about --</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 and open and inclusive. These public hearings represent a</p> <p>2 first step in this critical process.</p> <p>3 We appreciate that we are doing the work of the</p> <p>4 people. We want to hear from you and help you participate</p> <p>5 in a meaningful way. To encourage public participation,</p> <p>6 Senate President John McKay and House Speaker Tom Feeney</p> <p>7 have scheduled at least 22 public hearings throughout the</p> <p>8 state. All members of the Legislative Redistricting</p> <p>9 Committee as well as the local delegation members have been</p> <p>10 invited to these public hearings.</p> <p>11 The House and Senate have designated web sites as a</p> <p>12 tool for public input and will broadcast select hearings on</p> <p>13 Florida's public television stations. The web addresses</p> <p>14 for the House and Senate legislative redistricting are</p> <p>15 available at the information table. A link also is</p> <p>16 available from the Florida legislative web site.</p> <p>17 The redistricting plan for the State House and Senate</p> <p>18 will be passed in the form of a joint resolution which will</p> <p>19 not be subject to the Governor's approval or veto, but will</p> <p>20 be reviewed by the Florida Supreme Court. The plan</p> <p>21 determining Congressional districts will not have to be</p> <p>22 reviewed by the Supreme Court, but will be subject to the</p> <p>23 Governor's approval or veto.</p> <p>24 I encourage everyone to carefully review the 2000</p> <p>25 census. It is the essential building block on which</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 Florida's redistricting plans will be built. The address 2 for the United States Census web site is available at the 3 information table.</p> <p>4 We are here to listen and consider your voice. We 5 encourage each member of the public to testify and help us 6 craft your legislative districts. We also encourage 7 written submissions in addition to the testimony during the 8 public hearing.</p> <p>9 Everyone wishing to speak must fill out a speaker's 10 card. That is the only way we will know who wishes to 11 speak, and after the hearing who actually spoke. Speaker 12 cards are available at the sign-in table. We want to hear 13 from you -- from as many people as possible; therefore, we 14 must limit your comments to four minutes.</p> <p>15 On behalf of Senate President John McKay, House 16 Speaker Tom Feeney, and the members of the Florida 17 Legislature, I look forward to working with you-all on this 18 historic and important task.</p> <p>19 At this time I will recognize former Senator Jim 20 Scott, who served during the previous reapportionment 21 process and is the Senate lead counsel on reapportionment 22 and redistricting. Senator Scott.</p> <p>23 SENATOR SCOTT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And as the 24 chairman has indicated, I'm counsel for the Senate. I also 25 have counsel for the House present tonight. My job tonight</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 In Florida, as we have discussed, this is entrusted to 2 the Legislature. The Legislature will convene in January 3 and conclude the regular session in March of 2002.</p> <p>4 If the regular sessions ends without a redistricting 5 plan, the Governor will be required by the Constitution to 6 reconvene the Legislature in a special session which 7 session will not exceed 30 consecutive days. If that 8 sessions ends without the adoption of a plan then the 9 Attorney General petitions the Florida Supreme Court to 10 commence deliberations and to effect a plan and file an 11 order setting forth the plan within 60 days.</p> <p>12 If during the session plans are adopted, then as to 13 the congressional, as the chairman stated, the Governor has 14 the opportunity to approve or veto that plan. The plan for 15 the House and Senate districts goes to the Florida Supreme 16 Court for review and a determination of its validity. If 17 they should declare it invalid, then the Legislature gets 18 another chance. Within five days there is a session to be 19 convened for no more than 15 days.</p> <p>20 In adopting the redistricting plan, the Legislature 21 will be guided by several factors including the principle 22 of one person, one vote and the requirement of the Florida 23 Constitution and the United States Constitution and federal 24 statutes.</p> <p>25 The principle or ideal commonly referred to as one</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 is to give you, and especially the members of the public, 2 an overview of the law regarding redistricting and 3 reapportionment.</p> <p>4 This is by no means a comprehensive or completed 5 review of all the issues, but at least an introductory, an 6 introduction to the basic principles and constraints that 7 will guide the decision-making of our State Legislature as 8 it proceeds with this very important task.</p> <p>9 The task, as the chairman stated, comes along every 10 ten years after the census. And this year because of 11 Florida's population increase over the last ten years 12 Florida will have two additional members in the United 13 States Congress, a total of 25 seats. The State 14 Legislature will therefore need to create these 25 15 separate, contiguous districts that cover the entire state, 16 one for each member of Congress.</p> <p>17 The Legislature will also need to divide the state 18 into 40 State Senate districts and 120 House of 19 Representative districts. Although the Legislature may, if 20 they choose, reduce the number of State Senate and House 21 districts to as low as 30 and 80, respectively. Although 22 no one has proposed that yet. The Florida Constitution 23 also requires that the State House and Senate districts be 24 consecutively numbered and of either contiguous, 25 overlapping or identical territories.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 person, one vote developed from a series of landmark United 2 States Supreme Court cases in the 1960s. This principle 3 stands for the proposition that each person's vote in any 4 state, including Florida, will count as much as everyone 5 else's.</p> <p>6 Prior to these decisions there were perhaps urban 7 districts that might have 250,000 people and one House 8 member; whereas, in a rural area there would only be maybe 9 75,000 people in the district. And the Supreme Court 10 concluded that these differences were basically illegal and 11 unconstitutional.</p> <p>12 However, the one person, one vote does not necessarily 13 require exact mathematical proportions. For example, in 14 legislative districts, the courts have accepted greater 15 deviations which could be as high as up to 10 percent 16 deviation under certain circumstances.</p> <p>17 However, for Congressional districts the courts have a 18 very strict standard. As the rule of thumb, in a 19 Congressional district, any deviation would be less than 20 1 percent, substantially less than 1 percent. In other 21 words, if you take the total population, divided as you 22 will see in a few moments in the presentation, you come up 23 with an ideal number of people for a Congressional 24 district. And that should be the same for all districts as 25 close as possible.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 In addition, the Voting Rights Act of 1964 and the 2 Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution 3 have become, over the course of the last 30 years, 4 important elements of any legislative deliberation 5 regarding redistricting. Section 2 of the Voting Rights 6 Act prohibits any practice or procedure, including certain 7 redistricting practices, that impairs the ability of a 8 minority community to elect candidates of choice on an 9 equal basis with nonminority voters.</p> <p>10 Florida is also one of the states that contains 11 jurisdictions that are subject to review under Section 5 of 12 the Voting Rights Act. Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act 13 requires that covered jurisdictions submit, prior to any 14 implementation of any proposed change to their practices or 15 procedures involving voting, including redistricting or 16 change in the district, for approval of either the Attorney 17 General of the United States or the federal district court 18 for the District of Columbia. This process is known as 19 preclearance.</p> <p>20 In Florida, the covered jurisdictions include Collier, 21 Hardee, Hendry, Hillsborough and Monroe Counties. The vast 22 majority of preclearance requests are made of the Attorney 23 General's Office and it is anticipated that if the 24 Legislature adopts the plan that that's what will be done 25 this year. And the Attorney General then either</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 of the census.</p> <p>2 Florida, as we all know, is a growing state. Between 3 the 1990 and the 2000 census, Florida's population 4 increased by more than 3 million people or 23.5 percent. 5 According to the 2000 census Florida's population is now 6 just below 16 million people. As a result of this growth, 7 Florida's representation in Congress will grow. As a 8 result of the 2000 census, Florida has received 22 new 9 congressional seats and will now have a grand total of 25.</p> <p>10 While the whole state of Florida has grown, the growth 11 has not been equal throughout the state. Different areas 12 of the state have experienced different rates of population 13 growth. Flagler County has received the greatest rate of 14 growth over the past ten years. They have grown at a rate 15 of 73.6 percent.</p> <p>16 Sumter County has grown at a rate of 68.9 percent. 17 Collier County, to the west of us, has grown at a rate of 18 65.3 percent, Wakulla County has grown at 61 percent, and 19 Osceola County has grown at a rate of 60.1 percent.</p> <p>20 On the other end of the spectrum, Monroe County, to 21 the south, grew at the slowest rate over the last ten 22 years. They grew at a rate of only 2 percent compared to 23 the statewide average of 23.5 percent. Pinellas County and 24 Putnam County both grew at a rate of 8.2 percent. They 25 were the second slowest in the rate of growth statewide.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 affirmatively indicates that the plan is approved and 2 precleared or at the end of 60 days he doesn't object and 3 it is automatically precleared.</p> <p>4 Either through the court proceeding or administrative 5 process the covered jurisdiction bears the burden of 6 demonstrating that the proposed voting change does not have 7 the purpose and will not have the effect of denying or 8 abridging the right to vote on account of race or color or 9 membership in a language minority group.</p> <p>10 In conclusion, the legal rules regarding redistricting 11 and reapportionment are somewhat complicated and 12 unfortunately we have just a short presentation here which 13 just scratches the surface. Some of these issues have not 14 been fully decided by the courts.</p> <p>15 So, Mr. Chairman, members, I, together with my House 16 counterpart, stand ready to assist you with this hearing 17 and throughout the process. Thank you.</p> <p>18 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you, Senator Scott. At this 19 time I'd like to recognize Todd Thomson who is with the 20 House redistricting committee who will give us information 21 on the census dealing with the state and also this local 22 area. Mr. Thomson, you are recognized.</p> <p>23 MR. THOMSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairmen, members. 24 Tonight I want to give you a brief census overview 25 beginning with a statewide overview and then a local view</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 And Gadsden County, in the Panhandle, grew at only a 9.7 2 percent rate.</p> <p>3 Now let's look at the local perspective. Palm Beach 4 County, according to the 2000 census, population has 5 increased by 31 percent to just over 1.1 million people. 6 Palm Beach County ranks third out of Florida's 67 counties.</p> <p>7 To the south of us, Broward County, population 8 increased by 29 percent to just over 1.6 million people. 9 Broward County is the second most populous county in the 10 state. Martin County to our north, population in Martin 11 County increased by 26 percent to just under 127,000 12 people. And Martin County ranks in the middle of Florida 13 counties, 29th of the 67 counties.</p> <p>14 As Senator Scott touched upon, the redistricting is 15 based on the one person, one vote principle. And the basis 16 of that is the 2000 census that was completed last year. 17 The Congressional, State Senate and State House districts 18 will be adjusted based on the results of the 2000 census.</p> <p>19 Districts that are, that have too many people based on 20 the 2000 census will have to lose people to come in line 21 with the ideal numbers, which we will get into in a moment, 22 and districts that are underpopulated will have to gain 23 territory and people to get to the ideal population for 24 each district.</p> <p>25 Now let's look at average district population. Based</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 on the 1990 census a Congressional district would have a 2 population of about 562,500 people. Due to the rate of 3 growth and the gain of two Congressional seats, each 4 district will have to contain 14 percent more people. And 5 that number is now 639,295 based on 25 Congressional 6 districts.</p> <p>7 Based on the 1990 census, the average State Senate 8 district had about 323,000 people; the average State House 9 district had about 108,000 people. Due to the growth in 10 Florida, each of these will increase by 23.5 percent. An 11 average State Senate district will have about 400,000 12 people, and an average State House district will have about 13 133,000 people.</p> <p>14 And here is a graphic to show you the growth. The 15 blue representing the results of the 2000 census, the green 16 showing you the results of the 1990 census and the 17 difference in the population per State House, State Senate 18 and Congressional district.</p> <p>19 This map gives you an indication of the change of 20 population density for Palm Beach and Martin Counties. The 21 areas in blue are the areas that grew in more densely 22 populated areas. The areas that are white or red are the 23 areas that did not increase in population density.</p> <p>24 And this is a little map to show you population 25 growth. The blue areas are the areas that grew faster than</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 will be here until about 10:30. So in order to facilitate 2 the moving on of the process, you will be called by number. 3 The first one that came is No. 1, and the last one that 4 came right now is about No. 67. So be aware, No. 2, when 5 we call No. 1 and so forth so that you can get up to the 6 microphone as soon as you can and move along.</p> <p>7 We will be timing, I have got to warn you if you have 8 about 20 seconds left. Also, if you want to present 9 something written, if you will just lay it on the table at 10 the front we will add that to the record, too. If you 11 can't finish your speech or it is too long or you want 12 something extra added in, just lay it on the table and the 13 staff will pick it up.</p> <p>14 Okay, we will start with No. 1.</p> <p>15 Also, while we are coming up, I want to announce that 16 we have at the South Broward campus auditorium at 9:00 17 a.m., October 1st, 2001, there will be a second Broward 18 County hearing. Thanks to Senator Wasserman-Shultz and 19 others who thought that would be a good idea.</p> <p>20 You are recognized.</p> <p>21 MR. KALISH: Good evening. My name is Murray Kalish, 22 I live at 6023 Stanley Lane in Delray Beach. I am a 23 founder and a leader in the largest political club in the 24 state of Florida, it is a Democratic club, and I am very 25 proud of this club.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 23.5 percent that the state of Florida grew, the white 2 areas are in line with the 23.5 percent, and the red areas, 3 primarily to the east, are the areas that grew slower than 4 the state rate of 23.5 percent.</p> <p>5 Now as we talk about districts in the Palm Beach area, 6 these are the Congressional districts. And the amount of 7 population in each district will need to gain or lose to 8 become in line with the 639,000 that will be necessary for 9 a Congressional district. And this information is also 10 available on the front desk as you came in with some color 11 maps and some numbers that are similar to these.</p> <p>12 This shows you the State Senate over- and undercount 13 that will be needed to get to the ideal population for each 14 State Senate district, and this represents the over- and 15 under- for an ideal population for each State House 16 district.</p> <p>17 And that concludes my presentation. Thank you, 18 Mr. Chairman.</p> <p>19 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you, Mr. Thomson. Ladies and 20 gentlemen, as I stated earlier we will be asking for you to 21 fill out a speaker's card in order to present something 22 tonight, and please stay within the four minutes. If you 23 will notice, if you did fill one out, in the bottom, 24 right-hand corner there is a number.</p> <p>25 In order to facilitate, we have enough cards that we</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p>1 I have been through this particular scenario, this is 2 the third time. I have been living in Florida for about 24 3 years -- 23, 24 years. And I have seen this going on and 4 on and on. And each time I have seen things that make my 5 blood curdle. I am a member residing in District 78. 6 That's the big blue of your map. It is the largest, 7 probably, district in this area. My representative is 8 right here in front, Richard Machek.</p> <p>9 I would like to see, rather than this district going, 10 meandering all the way up north to St. Lucie and to Avon 11 Park, I would like it to stay around this area where people 12 have the same feeling of government, where I don't have to 13 fight for my view of abortion or anti-abortion with people 14 who live all the way up in the other areas who do not 15 believe in the same thing that I don't believe in. I'd 16 like it to be similar to what this area does and believes 17 and such.</p> <p>18 And unless the Legislature does something about that, 19 you are doing a fairly job. You have to go ahead and keep 20 the areas together. Right now that is one of the biggest 21 problems we have. I don't want to see Ron Klein's district 22 changed much. I would like to see Richard Machek's area 23 going along where it is.</p> <p>24 We might be able to cut off a little part of 25 Representative Slosberg's district because Representative</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 Slosberg, according to what I see, has 15,000 people too 2 many in his district. We can take some of his 15,000 and 3 put it into this district. And District 88, Annie Gannon, 4 has about 40,000 too many people. And I'd like to see 5 those two groups come into this district. And the part 6 that's above this area, above the line of Route 80 all the 7 way up to Ft. Pierce and Avon Park be set up into another 8 district that could absorb those. It is the only way that 9 I can see it happening. And unless it is done that way, I 10 think that we are going to be making a mistake. 11 Thank you for your time. 12 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 2. 13 MR. MANNIN: Good late afternoon, Senator Webber (sic) 14 and members of the Florida Legislature. My name is Mitch 15 Mannin, and until last year I was a 37-year resident of 16 Boca Raton and now I live in Green Acres, Florida. It is 17 always a pleasure to address a hearing of the Florida 18 Legislature, being I'm a distinct minority as I am a native 19 Floridian, I'm a fourth generation Floridian, and my 20 great-grandfather was a member of the Florida Legislature 21 from 1888 to 1892 from the Crystal River area, which is 22 lower Alabama to most of us. 23 However, it is always my pleasure to have all of you 24 Senators and Representatives that aren't from South Florida 25 down here. I mean, I know we all know why you are down DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 hold a legislative hearing in south Palm Beach County, you 2 will continue getting this type of a turnout of the people. 3 (Applause.) 4 MR. MANNIN: Just as a side note, Irv Slosberg, I 5 haven't met you ever, but I am certainly glad to see you 6 got elected. You will keep this Legislature humble. 7 REPRESENTATIVE SLOSBERG: I love you. 8 MR. MANNIN: I don't agree with you all the time -- 9 REPRESENTATIVE SLOSBERG: Well I still love you. They 10 don't either. 11 MR. MANNIN: -- but one of the things that has been of 12 interest to me this past year especially from the media, 13 they did everyone in Florida a favor. They actually 14 published facts. I was very impressed with the Palm Beach 15 Post this past year in developing out all the demographics 16 of Palm Beach County, especially this past week of showing 17 the increasing of our diversity here in Palm Beach County. 18 We have a large Hispanic, we have a large Asian community 19 along with our continuing African American community, along 20 with everybody else. 21 I will have the pleasure in 17 months of retiring and 22 joining the senior citizens' group. Since having nothing 23 else to do I will be involved with them. What you have 24 before you in the Legislature for this session of 25 reapportionment -- DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 here, it is just to see what we look like after last year's 2 election. We are really people, we have concerns, and we 3 are here to tell you that we are fed up and we are not 4 going to take it anymore. 5 (Applause.) 6 MR. MANNIN: Most of you on this panel have never been 7 through a gerrymandering and redistricting fight. 8 Thankfully the leadership, majority leadership in the State 9 Senate, Senator Webber (sic), you have former Senator Jim 10 Scott as your legal counsel. Senator Scott can well attest 11 to the legislative fights of reapportionment in 1981 and 12 1991. If you are all wondering how I'm so knowledgeable, I 13 was a candidate for the Florida Legislature in 1980, which 14 I lost. 15 However, Florida is very important to me and what has 16 happened to it. One thing that the 2000 election has done, 17 from 1970 to the year 2000, one of the most prominent 18 problems in southeast Florida, or the I-95 corridor, has 19 been lack of community. One thing for sure this past 20 election has done, you now have community and the people 21 are out. Why else on a hot Sunday -- Thursday afternoon 22 would you get a crowd like this. I would say, Go back to 23 your own home districts to see if you would get this 24 turnout. 25 And every time the State Legislature of Florida will DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Twenty seconds. 2 MR. MANNIN: -- is a distinct -- some distinct 3 problems. How are you best going to divide up Florida? 4 Are we going to follow the tradition of protecting sacred 5 cows, or are we going to try to develop one man, one vote 6 principle that has been prominent? 7 So please keep this in mind when you are doing this 8 because we will be watching. Thank you. 9 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 3. 10 MR. OSTROW: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, 11 my name is Harold Ostrow. I have served this community as 12 the chairman of the Palm Beach County Health Care District, 13 I have been a member of the Judicial Nominating Commission 14 for the 15th Judicial Circuit. 15 I am the chairman of the Focus Coalition of Palm Beach 16 County. This is a nonpartisan organization that encourages 17 people to get involved in the political process and we 18 endorse both Republicans and Democrats. 19 I am also a resident of the Huntington Lakes 20 subdivision in Delray Beach, which consists of 1800 units 21 occupied by seniors who share a community of interest. 22 Despite this, this ill-advised redistricting ten years ago, 23 divided our community's representation in the State 24 Legislature between two different State Representatives. 25 This must be corrected and similar situations avoided this DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 time around. It is essential that communities that share 2 interests be kept together for the purpose of 3 representation. 4 The same can be said for Palm Beach County's 5 representation in the Florida Senate. Because much of the 6 county is tacked onto predominantly surrounding counties' 7 districts only two of the six State Senators representing 8 Palm Beach County live in Palm Beach County. The other 9 four do not share Palm Beach County's community of interest 10 as their priority. 11 This too should be corrected for, again, it is 12 essential that communities that share interests be kept 13 together for the purpose of representation. With 14 respect -- 15 (Applause.) 16 MR. OSTROW: -- with respect to congressional 17 redistricting, as you know, Palm Beach County is a majority 18 Democratic county, and I'm sure you will agree should 19 retain the Democratic member in Congress. But it is 20 essential that it be one who lives in Palm Beach County and 21 not one who resides outside of the county. 22 (Applause.) 23 MR. OSTROW: I must point out the unusual bond that 24 has developed between the people of the 19th Congressional 25 District and their elected representative Robert Wexler. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 over 30 communities and over 60,000 folks. 2 I'm also a board member of the United South County 3 Democratic Club that met in this building Wednesday night, 4 and here I am back again Friday -- Thursday, I'm sorry. 5 Senior moment. 6 I want to thank you for the education because this is 7 all new to me. I'm a resident here two and a half years. 8 I want to zero in particularly on District 78, in which I 9 reside. And what I have learned is Representative Richard 10 Machek not only has Palm Beach County but has to travel up 11 to Martin County and St. Lucie County, from one end to the 12 other end over three hours. 13 I was a salesman a good portion of my life traveling 14 New England and traveling the southern states. It is wear 15 and tear. And I can't see how somebody can do an effective 16 job of representing their constituents if there is wear and 17 tear of having to control a district of this distance. 18 And so I would ask that -- I know that population is a 19 factor but population is right here, right close to home, 20 and I would certainly ask if you could make adjustments 21 that I know our representative can better serve us if he is 22 not spending his time on the road traveling into areas 23 other than Palm Beach County. 24 I would like to thank you very much for your time. 25 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you for appearing. No. 5. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 (Applause) 2 MR. OSTROW: This is due to Wechsler's extraordinary 3 job of representing the shared interests of those veteran 4 and senior communities within his district. This must not 5 be lost. 6 So, once again, I must remind you that communities 7 that share interests should be kept together for the 8 purpose of representation. 9 I know that redistricting has traditionally been a 10 partisan process; however, it is my hope that you will rise 11 above the past and follow the principle of fairness and 12 place the interest of people above partisan politics. 13 Please do not draw lines or chop up our districts to 14 fit some agenda. Please consider what is best for each 15 community. We want a fair and logical outcome to result 16 from this. 17 I thank you for the opportunity to address you and I 18 am submitting a written copy of my testimony for the 19 record. 20 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 4. 21 MR. ARNOLD: Mr. Chairman, fellow legislators, my name 22 is Harvey Arnold. I'm a resident that lives in the 23 development of Floral Lakes. I want to welcome you to my 24 home. I'm a member of the West Delray Alliance that meets 25 here in the civic center, and we met Wednesday morning, DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 MS. WOLFE-HERMAN: Mr. Chairman, and members of the 2 committee, my name is Sylvia Wolfe-Herman. And I want to 3 thank you for allowing you, or for allowing me, actually, 4 to let my voice be heard. I have been considered for the 5 last 28 years, and, you Southerners, if you will allow me 6 to be a Cracker for today, have been a political activist 7 and I have worked very hard in the process. 8 I do want to speak about the retirees. We need 9 representation. We mostly have similar interests. We must 10 have a Palm Beach Democratic Congressman and Senator. Our 11 Representative, Robert Wexler, and Senator Ron Klein has 12 always been there to help us in any situation whenever we 13 request it from them. I plead with your committee to allow 14 our Representative and Senator to remain in our district. 15 They are an extension of our community regardless of race, 16 religion or political party. And thank you very much. 17 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 6. 18 MS. RUDOLPH: Mr. Chairman, and members of the 19 committee, my name is Roslyn Rudolph of Boca Raton. I have 20 been a resident of Florida since October, 1991. I arrived 21 here when the state was involved in reapportionment and 22 redistricting based on the 1990 census. At that time I had 23 no knowledge of the process and the procedures of the 24 reapportionment of Palm Beach County and the state. 25 As a political activist I systematically studied this DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p>1 year's process and procedures. I am here to ask the 2 members of the Florida state reapportionment committee to 3 be guided by being a role model for our 49 other states of 4 our union by demonstrating the ability to plan and 5 implement fairness in their deliberation.</p> <p>6 As I see it, fairness means addressing the needs of 7 the whole community, including minorities, so that 8 communities of interest will not be destroyed. The 9 planning of districts could enhance community pride when 10 compactness, contiguity, natural and nonnatural boundaries 11 are part of the fairness process and procedures.</p> <p>12 What you do will tell all Floridians and the world 13 that your concerns reflect our concerns. Fairness will 14 impact on our schools, students and teachers, senior 15 citizens, veterans, the homeless and the handicapped. 16 Fairness will give all Floridians an opportunity to review 17 your plans as you submit them and as they are revised.</p> <p>18 Fairness will give all Floridians an opportunity to 19 comment on your plans in each step of the way in each of 20 the state's non-media markets. Tallahassee is not 21 convenient or accessible to most Floridians. It is 22 essential that there be additional local hearings.</p> <p>23 Fairness does not mean packing or creating districts 24 so overwhelmed with Democrats that you end up draining all 25 surrounding areas from electing minority or Democratic</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p>1 the retirees in his district as well as the younger people 2 with families.</p> <p>3 Our district is currently set up to give us effective 4 representation of our concerns in Tallahassee with State 5 Senator Ron Klein and in Washington, D.C. with Congressman 6 Robert Wexler. They both understand the needs of our 7 cities, schools, teachers, seniors, veterans, et cetera.</p> <p>8 I'd like to point out that Congressman Wexler is the 9 only Democratic Congressman living in Palm Beach County. 10 We certainly feel it is only fair that we have a 11 Congressman who lives in Palm Beach County and who has 12 represented us first in Tallahassee as a State 13 Representative, then as our State Senator, and now as our 14 Congressman. State Senator Ron Klein has also worked with 15 and for us first as a State Representative and now as a 16 Senator.</p> <p>17 My community of Broken Sound has one problem. We are 18 divided when it comes to State Representatives. I think we 19 all would be happier if State Representative Irving 20 Slosberg represented all of Broken Sound instead of just a 21 part of it. One community with so many similar interests 22 needs to have one State Representative rather than two 23 different ones. The process of reapportionment is to be 24 fair to the community. This is not fair to the community 25 of Broken Sound.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p>1 candidates. That strategy will almost certainly dilute 2 minority political strength on a statewide basis. That is 3 not fair.</p> <p>4 Florida is a very diverse state and its legislative 5 and Congressional seats should equitably reflect its 6 population.</p> <p>7 In closing, the spotlights are on Florida. What you 8 do will demonstrate that Florida is a fair thinking and a 9 fair acting state. Thank you.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 7.</p> <p>11 MS. LAPIDUS: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, 12 my name is Phyllis Lapidus, and I live in Broken Sound in 13 the city of Boca Raton. I'm the legislative representative 14 for Florida for the United Federation of Teachers, retired 15 teachers' chapter, who are retired New York City teachers 16 who live and vote in Florida. We have a few thousand 17 retirees who live in Palm Beach County and we have a few 18 thousand retirees who live in Broward County as well as 19 several thousand retirees who live in other parts of 20 Florida.</p> <p>21 I am also the area vice president for the Florida, for 22 Broward and Palm Beach Counties for the Florida Alliance of 23 Retired Americans.</p> <p>24 Congressman Wexler represents the district many of us 25 live in. And he does an outstanding job of representing</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>1 We do not want to disturb the harmony of our district 2 either in Washington or Tallahassee. We want what is fair 3 to all of us. Our community shares similar interests and 4 concerns. Our legislators understand our needs, we hope 5 you will. Thank you.</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 8.</p> <p>7 MS. MORRIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of 8 the committee. My name is Danielle Morris, I'm the 9 Executive Director of the Republican Party here in Palm 10 Beach County. I brought the cheering crowd.</p> <p>11 I'd like to thank the leadership first and foremost 12 for providing this opportunity. This is the first time 13 that the Republicans have had the opportunity to draw the 14 lines. And I think it is commendable the fairness and 15 openness that you have dealt with this process. And I 16 appreciate the opportunity to be here.</p> <p>17 Secondly, I'd like to thank the committee for your 18 bipartisan nature. The web site that you have provided and 19 the information that you have given to the people I think 20 is very beneficial. Also, the software that you have 21 provided at a very reasonable cost is very useful for more 22 people to be involved in the process. Thank you for that 23 also.</p> <p>24 Thank you, Senator Klein, for allowing us to have this 25 second hearing here in Palm Beach County. I think it is</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>1 very nice for those of us who are in this out county to be 2 able to be here tonight and speak to you-all. 3 And, finally, thank you very much for coming to us 4 with a clean slate, for allowing us to speak to you before 5 you start your process of drawing the lines, for letting us 6 have our input and to speak to you-all tonight in a way 7 such that we could affect the process before it even 8 begins. Thank you very much. 9 As many of you know ten years ago Palm Beach County 10 was gerrymandered and cut up. Many of our districts do not 11 reflect Palm Beach County districts. We were a donor 12 county for other areas. So I would like to kind of echo 13 some of the comments that have been made here tonight that 14 we would have districts that are more Palm Beach County 15 specific. 16 First, we would like to see a Senate seat, a State 17 Senate seat drawn along the coastal areas of Palm Beach 18 County. I think this would be helpful. We have two 19 wonderful Senators now in Senator Pruitt and Senator 20 Sanderson, but neither of them live in Palm Beach County. 21 We want to keep them, but we would like to have another 22 State Senate seat drawn along the coastal area. 23 Secondly, Senator Rossin's seat contains a lot of Palm 24 Beach County and also a lot of outlying areas. I think it 25 would be beneficial to make his seat more compact. As you DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 1976 as a loyal and proud Democrat. 2 It would be easy for this delegation, along with other 3 members of the Legislature, just to do redistricting and 4 reapportionment along party lines. However, contributing 5 to the process of being fair will take a lot more effort on 6 your part. I need not remind you, redrawing political 7 boundaries will be one of the most important duties of the 8 State Legislature, and the process the Legislatures are 9 using to shape. In doing so, the citizens will ask you, 10 Was it fair? 11 I am aware that one party controls the Legislature and 12 the Governorship of this state. But I for one, as a past 13 president of a nonpartisan coalition of communities in the 14 unincorporated area of Palm Beach, do not want this process 15 to be a partisan exercise. I am sure the citizens want you 16 to consider what is best for each community, making sure it 17 is fair. Consider the necessity of protecting voting 18 rights for the minorities, protecting communities of 19 interest, and respecting political subdivisions. 20 I implore you not to draw lines or chop up our 21 communities to fit someone's private agenda. I would 22 suggest that political subdivisions such as cities and 23 counties be considered more strongly in the new 24 redistricting proposal. 25 I personally feel my area has an effective DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 stated previously, Palm Beach County is the third largest 2 county in Florida with regards to population. And it would 3 be appropriate and logical to have two Senators exclusively 4 in and from Palm Beach County. 5 Thirdly, we have four Congressmen from this area. We 6 have two Republican Congressmen who are serving us very 7 well. Congressmen Foley and Shaw have done a great job for 8 the people of this area. I think it would be beneficial to 9 Congressman Shaw if more of his district reflected the Boca 10 area rather than Dade County. 11 Palm Beach and Broward have, are a more logical fit 12 for communities of interest rather than Dade County. So I 13 think that that would be a nice thing for you-all to look 14 at for Congressman Shaw's district. 15 Finally, we would like to see the large Hispanic, 16 African American, and Haitian communities preserved. As 17 the 2000 census shows, these communities are growing at a 18 very rapid pace here in Palm Beach County and we believe it 19 is important to keep those communities together. 20 Thank you-all very much for your time. I appreciate 21 the opportunity to be with you. 22 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 9. 23 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, 24 my name is Al Miller. I reside at 4951 Meadowview Drive in 25 Boynton Beach. I have been voting here in Florida since DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 representation in Tallahassee by Senator Klein and by 2 Representative Annie Gannon, and in Washington, D.C. by 3 Congressman Wexler. 4 I have not taken up all my allotted time, so I ask you 5 during the time period left to consider in your mind what 6 is fair to the citizens of our community. In asking for 7 fairness we ask for nothing more than justice, and we 8 demand nothing less. And I thank you very much. 9 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 10. 10 MR. LEAVITT: Senator Webster, it is an extreme 11 pleasure to be here this evening before an eminent group 12 like this, you especially. My wife and I are from 13 Massachusetts, the home of Enon Picard. And your 14 illustrious ancestor was somebody that we all could be 15 proud of. As a matter of fact, if he ran today, I don't 16 think there would be anybody that voted against him. But 17 that's not what I am here for tonight. 18 My name is Dan Leavitt, and I have been an elected 19 member of the board of directors of the West Boca Community 20 Council for 18 years. The Council is positively a 21 nonpartisan and nonpolitical entity and has been that way 22 since its founding 21 years ago. We never endorse any 23 candidate or party. During the preelection period, 24 candidates for all elected offices are welcome to address 25 our numbers. The Council has 110 home owner and DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 condominium associations as members. These represent 2 150,000 people.</p> <p>3 Neither I nor any other member in the council are here 4 tonight to speak on behalf of any candidate or party, only 5 to express our hope that any redistricting that takes 6 place, if it does, will be done in a fair and equitable 7 manner, rather than to further entrench either party's 8 stake in the county or the state.</p> <p>9 Quoting an old cliché, unless districting is really 10 broken, let's not try to fix it. Thank you very much.</p> <p>11 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 11.</p> <p>12 MS. FLEISHMAN: Good evening to everyone. My name is 13 Irma Fleishman, I live in Boca Century Village, and my 14 legislator is Representative Irving Slosberg in District 15 89. I think he has done a terrific job in this past year. 16 He has gotten transportation for seniors. Ron Klein 17 certainly worked with him on that. He has at all our 18 meetings, he is at every kind of meeting, and he works 19 hard. I don't want to see that changed. He represents 20 Boca Century Village, Whisper Walk, King's Point, 21 Huntington Lakes and, as the lady said, he would like to 22 represent all of Broken Sound. I don't want to see our 23 district changed in any way. I know he does a great job, 24 he is going to do a greater job. And that's very important 25 to all the constituents that he has. Thank you.</p> <p>DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 13.</p> <p>2 MR. LEVY: Good evening, members of the committee. My 3 name is Sidney Levy, I'm the commander of the Department of 4 Florida Jewish War Veterans.</p> <p>5 I am here to tell you that whenever in Palm Beach 6 County any veteran that has a problem, no matter how big or 7 small, we are able to pick up the phone and call 8 Congressman Robert Wexler, Senator Ron Klein and our House 9 members. And we receive immediate attention. The veterans 10 are well served by these outstanding legislators.</p> <p>11 I call upon you to heed my words, on behalf of all 12 veterans in Palm Beach County, do not take away the 13 wonderful representation we continue to receive. Thank 14 you.</p> <p>15 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 14.</p> <p>16 MR. SHEAR: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, members of the 17 committee. My name is Ralph L. Shear, I am past commander 18 of the Broward/Palm Beach District Council for the Jewish 19 War Veterans of the United States of America, life member 20 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 10556, and life 21 member of the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 133.</p> <p>22 It is a pleasure to be here to lend my voice to the 23 chorus of people who have come to talk about the special 24 bond that has developed between the people of the 19th 25 Congressional District and our elected representative</p> <p>DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 12.</p> <p>2 MS. KARP: Mr. Chairman, and commission, I am Joan 3 Karp, President of the League of Women Voters of South Palm 4 Beach County. The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan 5 group, we never endorse candidates of either party, 6 although we do give them voice in the forums. I am here to 7 give you the League's position on redistricting and I thank 8 you for the opportunity to speak today.</p> <p>9 The League urges the commission to adopt redistricting 10 standards whereby, one, the districts would be drawn as 11 equal in population as practicable; two, the districts 12 formed would be compact and contiguous; three, the voting 13 strengths of racial or minority groups will not be diluted; 14 four, the district will not favor any person or political 15 party; five, wherever possible districts should not span 16 multiple counties.</p> <p>17 This last point is especially important in Palm Beach 18 County where the state legislators, Palm Beach delegation 19 of 60 members, has only a few who actually live in Palm 20 Beach County. This makes our elected officials less 21 accessible, less accountable to the county's voters.</p> <p>22 The League also requests that workshops for public 23 comment be held after the initial district proposals are 24 made and sufficient time be given to legislators to propose 25 amendments as necessary. Thank you.</p> <p>DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 Robert Wexler. First let me say that I sincerely hope that 2 you are guided by an overriding principle in this process, 3 and that process is fairness. We want you-all to consider 4 what is best for each community.</p> <p>5 Our community is primarily concerned with senior 6 citizens, social security, Medicare and veteran's rights. 7 Our district is currently configured in a way that this has 8 resulted in effective representation of our concerns in 9 both Tallahassee and Washington, D.C. Robert Wexler 10 understands our needs and we have benefitted immensely from 11 having him represent this district.</p> <p>12 Please do not undermine the progress we have made by 13 enacting unnecessarily changes of this district line. 14 Please do not put partisan politics above the interest of 15 the people of this district. It is very important to keep 16 communities that share interests together for the purpose 17 of representation. There is a huge number of veterans in 18 our district, and Congressman Robert Wexler has done an 19 excellent job of representing us.</p> <p>20 Since Palm Beach County is a majority Democratic 21 county, it deserves to have at least a Democratic member of 22 Congress who lives and resides in Palm Beach County. It 23 would be very unfair to have Palm Beach County represented 24 by only a Broward-based Congressman.</p> <p>25 In short, our district is set up presently the way</p> <p>DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p> <p>1 that has given maximum representation in the halls of 2 Congress, and that is what our Constitution requires. You 3 should not do anything to change that. That is what we 4 fought for and what we deserve. 5 On behalf of all the veterans of Palm Beach County we 6 sincerely thank you for your time and we feel sure that you 7 will do the right thing. Thank you. 8 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 15. 9 MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, 10 I want to thank you for moving this particular meeting down 11 here, because if Ron Klein hadn't made the suggestion that 12 it be done, half of these people would not have been able 13 to attend the other meeting. For that we thank you. 14 My name is Jerry Marshall, I live in Palm Greens in 15 South Palm Beach County. You have heard many of the things 16 that I intend to say. But for the record, they bear 17 repetition. 18 Fairness, nonpartisanship is most important. You have 19 heard that Congressman Robert Wexler has done an 20 outstanding job in District 19. 21 (Applause.) 22 MR. MARSHALL: We have a community of interests of all 23 of the people about whom you have heard. His constituency 24 you have heard about is the elderly, retirees, veterans of 25 World War II and the Korean War. And it is most important DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p> <p>1 Delray Beach it is a distance of 165 miles. That is 2 ludicrous. He should be given a break of having a county 3 where the bulk of his population is -- 4 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Twenty seconds. 5 MR. MARSHALL: -- even though -- pardon? 6 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Twenty seconds. 7 MR. MARSHALL: Even though he has been very interested 8 in elder affairs as well as in farming. 9 This is my eighth lifetime redistricting. I am now 10 facing the ninth. I am 82 years old, I don't buy green 11 bananas. Consequently, I am especially interested in 12 preserving the three Rs; namely, Robert Wexler, Ron Klein 13 and Richard Machek. Thank you. 14 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 16. 15 MR. KRESCH: I'd like to take this opportunity to 16 thank the chairman and the redistricting committees 17 representing the reapportionment assignment for the state 18 of Florida. 19 My name is Sy Kresch, I live in Boca Del Mar in Boca 20 Raton. I'm not bipartisan, I'm nonpartisan. I sit on the 21 board of directors of the voters' coalition of Palm Beach 22 County. I have been a full-time resident of the state of 23 Florida since 1969 when my company transferred me down 24 here. I have seen three, this is the fourth, redistricting 25 since I've been a resident of Florida. And each time poses DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p> <p>1 that their problems are taken care of by a man who feels 2 their problems and knows about them, and that's Congressman 3 Robert Wexler. 4 (Applause.) 5 MR. MARSHALL: Their problems are social security, 6 veterans' affairs, Medicare, Medicaid, prescription drugs, 7 patient's bill of rights, a community of interests that is 8 well served by Congressman Robert Wexler. And his district 9 should not be changed in any way that changes his 10 representation of the group. 11 In State Senate District No. 28 we have, and I don't 12 believe in cloning, but we have practically a cloned 13 district. And it is ably represented by State Senator Ron 14 Klein. 15 (Applause.) 16 MR. MARSHALL: He has done a magnificent job and we 17 want him to continue to be able to do that job without 18 cutting up his district in any way. 19 So far as the State Representative District 78, 20 Richard Machek, there is a problem. Richard Machek has 21 finally become our Representative after eight years of one 22 who was located in Ft. Pierce. So we have access to 23 Richard Machek and that's important. He has the problem of 24 having a district that was carved out for him that covers a 25 part of five counties. And from Okeechobee County down to DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p> <p>1 a problem. 2 It is my opinion that there should be, as the courts 3 have ruled, a commonality of interest as well as a 4 compactness in preparing all these districts. 5 Reapportionment should be based on logic and not politics. 6 It is difficult to imagine districts such as Alcee 7 Hastings' which serpentines its way up and down the coast 8 of Florida through several counties, I think seven 9 counties, sometimes as narrow as 200 yards. That doesn't 10 make much sense. That shows a lack of care insofar as the 11 population is concerned, and it puts politics over 12 practicality. 13 Now I know that gerrymandering has been a way of life 14 in redistricting. And it is a more serious -- this is 15 probably the most serious thing that the Legislature faces 16 every ten years, how to draw districts that represent 17 fairness and justice as far as the citizens are concerned. 18 I would like to add one thing to commonality of 19 interest and compactness and that is diversity. There 20 should be no safe seats. All seats should be up based upon 21 issues, and not ethnicity or partisan politics. 22 I might also suggest that this body supplement its 23 ranks by reaching into the academic community. We have 11 24 colleges and universities in the state of Florida, and we 25 can draw from this academic pool nonpartisan professionals DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 who can come up with input which may augment your 2 particular positions. I think there will be a greater 3 reception among the population if they felt that the 4 procedure was done intelligently rather than emotionally. 5 Now Florida, according to the last census, has 6 15,982,378 people in the state. And drawing it down to 7 numbers, as was aptly demonstrated -- 8 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Twenty seconds. 9 MR. KRESCH: -- there are 120 State House seats which 10 would require population in each one of 133,000, 40 Senate 11 seats, population approximately 400,000 and 25 United 12 States Congressmen, population of 639,000. 13 We all remember November 7th, 2000 where Florida was a 14 laughingstock of the country, I suggest this group make an 15 effort to lead the country. And we should be a shining 16 example of the proper way to reapportion the state. Thank 17 you for your time. 18 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 17. 19 MR. EPSTEIN: Mr. Chairman, my name is Herb Epstein, I 20 am the president of the United South County Democratic 21 Club, and in addition I'm president of a condo and past 22 president and currently treasurer of one of the communities 23 here in Delray Beach, Las Verdes. I'm not a condo 24 commando, my commando days ended in 1945 when I retired as 25 a lieutenant from the Fifth Ranger Battalion in which I DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 democratically represent the wishes of all the people that 2 were expressed so well tonight. 3 And even though the majority of the committee belongs 4 to the Republican party, district lines should reflect the 5 interest of the community and not party affiliations so 6 that all Floridians shall be able to have true 7 representation in Congress and in our State House. That, I 8 believe, is democracy. 9 I also want to urge you, the reapportionment 10 committee, to hold hearings after you develop your 11 proposals and that these hearings be held outside of 12 Tallahassee. We can't all get there, you know, it is 13 pretty far away, to respond to actual proposals for 14 redistricting. 15 And I thank you. 16 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 19. 17 MR. WEITZ: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, my 18 name is Jay Weitz, I live in Boynton Beach, Indian Spring 19 County Club, a community of about 3,000 people, where I had 20 the honor to serve as president of its board of governors 21 for the past couple of years. 22 First, it is a little difficult to comment on any of 23 the proposed changes when you don't know what those changes 24 are. I would certainly hope, and I repeat what the 25 previous speaker said, I certainly hope that you would DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 served from Omaha Beach to the Danube. 2 When you get to be No. 17 on this program you have 3 reached the point where anything you might say would be 4 redundant. After ten probably we have redundant. I think 5 you have heard some very, very excellent speakers here so 6 far with some very good, sound information, and hopefully 7 sound advice that you will all take. 8 As they have indicated, we have an interest. Our 9 interest is that we are very, very happy with our current 10 representation and we want that to continue. That's basic. 11 Beyond that, the element of fairness has been 12 mentioned and we realize that this is to a certain extent a 13 political event which is done in a political atmosphere, 14 but as the previous speaker has just implored you to rise 15 above that. I think you will do a great service to Florida 16 and to the nation in setting an example if you do that. 17 I just became aware of the fact that you have a web 18 site and can get software to go into details, and I will 19 certainly avail myself of that opportunity in the future. 20 Thank you. 21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 18. 22 MS. POLISHUCK: My name is Jean Polishuck, and I live 23 in Delray Beach. And I'm here to add my voice and that of 24 600 members of the South Palm Beach County Chapter of NOW 25 to urge you, the reapportionment committee, to fairly and DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>1 schedule public hearings after the new maps have been drawn 2 so that we can intelligently comment upon them. Certainly 3 a process needs to be developed for our legislators to 4 learn of the changes so they can pass them on to their 5 constituents. 6 First, communities should not be broken up. As was 7 mentioned a couple of times and as is the case in many 8 instances, communities need to be kept together with the 9 same representation. 10 Secondly, consideration has to be given to the rapport 11 that we have developed with our representatives to date, 12 Congressman Wexler, Senator Klein, Representative Gannon. 13 These people are accessible to us, they are available to 14 us, they or their aides are constantly in touch. And this 15 rapport should not be breached. 16 You know, there are a lot of seniors in South Palm 17 Beach County, seniors don't like drastic change. Someday 18 when I become a senior, I'm sure I won't like it. 19 (Laughter.) 20 MR. WEITZ: Third, any drastic redistricting of the 21 present boundaries can and in some cases would result in 22 districts where one end, because of the thin nature of the 23 district, has nothing to do with the other end. That 24 should not be done. 25 As has been mentioned before fairness in redrawing DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p>1 district lines has to be of paramount importance. What we 2 don't want and what I'm sure everybody here agrees is to 3 carve out districts according to some partisan agenda. Not 4 that anybody would ever do anything like that. But just in 5 case, that's what we are -- exactly what we are concerned 6 about.</p> <p>7 They say that politics is a profession consisting of 8 two sides and a fence. What we hope and what we urgently 9 implore you to do is to come down on the right side of that 10 fence and for the people of Palm Beach County. Thank you.</p> <p>11 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 20.</p> <p>12 MR. GREENHUT: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of 13 the panel, my name is Marvin Greenhut, and I am a resident 14 of Palm Beach County for more than 20 years. I am also a 15 long-standing member of the American Jewish Committee, Palm 16 Beach County Chapter. We welcome you to South Palm Beach 17 County.</p> <p>18 The American Jewish Committee is this nation's oldest 19 human relations agency, now celebrating its 95th 20 anniversary. Its Palm Beach County presence dated back to 21 1957. We service actually north to Martin and St. Lucie 22 Counties. Our mission nationally and locally is to protect 23 the religious and civil rights of Jews and others here and 24 abroad.</p> <p>25 There is no immigrant group in America that is more</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p>1 concerns? You are bound to create districts that have 2 geographic integrity, but does it really matter if this 3 block is over here, that census tract over there, or some 4 county rationalized into the map? And what of those 5 natural barriers, canals, lakes, rivers? The answer is, 6 Yes, of course it matters.</p> <p>7 The reason it matters is the process, the reason it 8 matters is because some day you will say to your children 9 and your grandchildren, I sat in the legislative body of 10 one of the nation's great states and produced a document 11 that caused our Founding Fathers watching the process to 12 nod --</p> <p>13 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Twenty seconds.</p> <p>14 MR. GREENHUT: -- in assent and say, Well done, fellow 15 American, well done. Thank you.</p> <p>16 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 21.</p> <p>17 MS. FINK: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, members of the 18 committee. I am Isabella Fink, a 30-year resident of the 19 state of Florida. I live in Century Village in Boca Raton. 20 I am a member of the Citizens Task Force of the planning 21 and zoning commission, and I am also president of our 22 Century Village West Democratic Club in Boca Raton.</p> <p>23 Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak to 24 you on behalf of the citizens of the area in which I 25 reside. We ask that you consider the fact that our elected</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>1 passionate about the democratic process than is the 2 American Jewish citizens. Thus, whether it is the 3 Constitution of these United States, the Constitution of 4 the sunshine state, our public school system and other key 5 elements of our great republic, the American Jewish 6 Committee is there to fight for protecting this nation's 7 ideals and the rights of the nations' citizens.</p> <p>8 Redistricting goes to the heart of democracy. You are 9 shouldering in this process a lofty but weighty obligation.</p> <p>10 The ideals of the Constitution expressed from the very 11 first words, "We, the people," speak to representation. 12 That is what this redistricting is, a process that makes 13 our democracy what it is, representative. Think about how 14 wonderful this process is. Every voter gets an equal crack 15 at the system. Every representative has the same numeric 16 duty.</p> <p>17 But that is maybe the easiest part of it. The rest of 18 the story is one that shows at every turn somebody's ox 19 gets gored. In reality, no process is more political in 20 the negative sense of the word than this one.</p> <p>21 It is understood that you are bound to protect the 22 incumbent, but what if the incumbent is another party? You 23 are bound to protect the integrity of a particular group of 24 interests. How do you know if Hispanics and Jews, African 25 Americans and Haitians, Asians and Russians have similar</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p>1 representatives in Florida, Representative Slosberg and 2 State Senator Klein, and in Washington, Congressman Wexler, 3 have been most diligent in fulfilling the needs of our 4 district. They depended on us to elect them, and we depend 5 on them. And we thank them for their efforts on our 6 behalf.</p> <p>7 What we ask of you is that you not destroy this very 8 special relationship. We understand that the population of 9 an area varies over a ten-year period, and that an 10 equitable reapportionment of this population must be made 11 following the census count. In the spirit of fairness, 12 honesty, and nonpartisanship, please do not tear apart our 13 community in the redrawing of the district lines. Fairness 14 also means giving the citizens knowledge of your considered 15 changes and the opportunity to offer suggestions for 16 possible revisions, if necessary.</p> <p>17 Thank you for listening, good evening.</p> <p>18 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 22.</p> <p>19 MS. ROSEN: My name is Edith Rosen and I follow 20 Isabella Fink only because we came in together and we 21 belong to the same community.</p> <p>22 I have been an active Democrat for 60 years primarily 23 because I think the words "Democrat" and "politics" are 24 synonymous. If you are part of this country, then you 25 should be part of the political scene because it is</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p>1 important.</p> <p>2 I have very little to add to what has been said</p> <p>3 because most of it has been eloquent and I know you must be</p> <p>4 tired of hearing the same thing, but bear with me. Thanks</p> <p>5 very much for giving us this extra time to communicate to</p> <p>6 your committee how very serious this matter of</p> <p>7 redistricting is to South County residents.</p> <p>8 I would ask that you consider carefully how you draw</p> <p>9 these lines knowing that the representatives who we elected</p> <p>10 to their various offices are well equipped to represent us</p> <p>11 because they know and care about the needs of our</p> <p>12 community, having represented the district, shared our</p> <p>13 concerns for better schools, better teachers, better</p> <p>14 veterans' care. They have listened and they have acted</p> <p>15 upon our requests when we senior citizens needed to be</p> <p>16 valued and respected as useful members of our community.</p> <p>17 The representatives who we have elected to their</p> <p>18 positions have given us their time, their thoughts and</p> <p>19 their hearts. And we urge you to think about their</p> <p>20 contribution to our county, our cities, our state, and our</p> <p>21 federal government and honor these officers by permitting</p> <p>22 them to serve their same communities.</p> <p>23 We therefore hope that you will judge fairly -- and we</p> <p>24 have used that word over and over again tonight, but please</p> <p>25 remember what we say, fairness is very important -- how to</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p>1 the time necessary to hear the speakers. I have three</p> <p>2 generic major concerns, and this is not a partisan</p> <p>3 discussion I hope to bring to you.</p> <p>4 Number one, I hope the committee does develop</p> <p>5 districts that are both contiguous and compact for all</p> <p>6 state and national offices. Gerrymandering or the</p> <p>7 perception of gerrymandering should not be tolerated.</p> <p>8 Number two, I hope you do plan for the population</p> <p>9 growth patterns, those already evident in Florida and those</p> <p>10 anticipated, so that the districts guarantee that each</p> <p>11 resident has an equal voice by dividing the state into</p> <p>12 districts with the same number of people. To do less would</p> <p>13 dilute the value of the resident's vote in the respective</p> <p>14 districts.</p> <p>15 Finally, when you do redistricting, do not do so to</p> <p>16 ensure seats for candidates along racial, ethnic or</p> <p>17 partisan political lines. Let all the candidates be chosen</p> <p>18 through merit alone and keep the American dream alive.</p> <p>19 Thank you for listening.</p> <p>20 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 25.</p> <p>21 MR. SMALL: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, my</p> <p>22 number is Herbert Small. I have never been politically</p> <p>23 involved because I was too busy trying to earn a living for</p> <p>24 my family; however, since retiring I try to understand what</p> <p>25 is happening around me.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p>1 carve the districts so that they will truly represent those</p> <p>2 who live here. Thank you very much.</p> <p>3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 23.</p> <p>4 MR. JEROME: Mr. Chairman, honorable members of the</p> <p>5 committee, my name is Jerry Jerome. I have been a resident</p> <p>6 of my community in Delray for 11 years. And I have been</p> <p>7 fortunate enough to always receive representation by the</p> <p>8 best legislators that the state of Florida can offer.</p> <p>9 Please don't change this now. My community knows that at a</p> <p>10 moment's notice we can pick up the phone and call</p> <p>11 Congressman Robert Wexler, Senator Robert Klein and</p> <p>12 Representative Richard Machek and speak with them or one of</p> <p>13 their aides. Our needs are immediately met. We love</p> <p>14 Congressman Wexler, Senator Klein and Representative</p> <p>15 Machek. Please do not take away this most cherished</p> <p>16 privilege that we have.</p> <p>17 Please conduct these hearings in a fair manner.</p> <p>18 Please listen to every statement made here tonight and to</p> <p>19 all statements made around the state. We are counting on</p> <p>20 you to do the right thing. Thank you.</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 24.</p> <p>22 MS. DUBBIN: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. My</p> <p>23 name is Barbara Dubbin, and I live in Stonebridge Country</p> <p>24 Club in Boca Raton. I first want to thank you for bringing</p> <p>25 this hearing to South County, and I appreciate you taking</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p>1 I am here as a veteran, a combat veteran of World War</p> <p>2 II. I flew 35 combat missions over Japan with members of</p> <p>3 differing political views. There was no antagonism because</p> <p>4 we had a joint mission to complete, that was to take</p> <p>5 fairness and equality regardless of political party.</p> <p>6 I have voted every year since getting out of the</p> <p>7 military service. Yes, I have voted for Democrats, I have</p> <p>8 voted for Republicans, and I have voted for members of the</p> <p>9 third party. Needless to say my choice is never always</p> <p>10 right. I am here today to request that you consider</p> <p>11 fairness and equality in redistricting this community.</p> <p>12 Thank you.</p> <p>13 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. At this time our court</p> <p>14 reporter usually needs a break after about an hour and a</p> <p>15 half so we will take a five-minute break and then we will</p> <p>16 be right back just to give our court reporter just a time</p> <p>17 to relax. Five minutes, so don't go too far.</p> <p>18 (Brief recess.)</p> <p>19 THE COURT: Okay, we are ready to begin and we are</p> <p>20 going to be beginning with No. 26. No. 26, you are</p> <p>21 recognized.</p> <p>22 MS. ROSENBLUTH: Thank you. I see that we are losing</p> <p>23 our audience and I know the hour is growing somewhat late</p> <p>24 and it is starting to get dark, so I won't take your time.</p> <p>25 I just wanted to say as I stand here I am so proud to be an</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p> <p>1 American and so proud that my voice is one that can be 2 heard. It is not too many places in our world that this 3 could happen. And so I thank you.</p> <p>4 I don't want to take time to reiterate the many 5 eloquent things that have been said that echo my sentiments 6 completely. I do hope that fairness is a word that you 7 will remember because it is a very important word 8 particularly in a democracy. I am a retired teacher, I'm 9 proud of the fact that I always spoke about what democracy 10 meant to children, I volunteer with children. I am happy 11 with the representation of our Congressman Wexler, Senator 12 Klein, Richard Machek. I think they are aware of the needs 13 of this community.</p> <p>14 I hope that the status quo will be maintained. And, 15 again, I hope that fairness will prevail and that you will 16 not carve us up. Thank you very much.</p> <p>17 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you, No. 27.</p> <p>18 MS. DUBIN: Hello, Mr. Chairman, and members of the 19 committee, my name Cathy Dubin. I appreciate this 20 opportunity to speak before you. And I would just like to 21 say I am speaking on behalf of my family and I am speaking 22 on behalf of the Democratic party of Palm Beach County as I 23 am the executive director.</p> <p>24 The districts in Palm Beach County have been 25 configured in such a way that makes it difficult for voters</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p> <p>1 public. You can testify and give us what you believe is 2 right for this hearing and we will take that in 3 consideration.</p> <p>4 MS. DUBIN: I would like that to be on the record, 5 thank you.</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 28.</p> <p>7 MS. GANZ: My name is Nancy Ganz, I live in Delray 8 Beach. Every day all of us are presented with many choices 9 that require us to make decisions. We have the opportunity 10 to address each one with clarity and integrity. The power 11 to make these reapportionment decisions is yours. It has 12 been given to you. This right rests in your hands. But 13 with every right comes an equal measure of responsibility. 14 In the recent years we have all seen many people exercising 15 their power but rarely with enough regard for the attendant 16 responsibilities.</p> <p>17 Our country is filled with symbols. In this case we 18 have a donkey, we have an elephant, and we have an eagle. 19 We can choose to lumber along the earth or listen to the 20 eagle calling upon us to seek higher ideals.</p> <p>21 I'm not asking you to put your party second, it is 22 your turn. What I'm asking is that you act with a fair 23 hand, that your leadership be driven by integrity, not by 24 insecurity. That you find the courage to be just. Our 25 justice is exemplified by the scales. This symbol reminds</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p> <p>1 in our county to reach out and touch the fine people that 2 represent them. It is time now for the districts to be 3 drawn in such a way that makes it easier for the elected 4 officials to get to their people and the people to get to 5 their elected.</p> <p>6 The people who represent Palm Beach County should 7 reside in Palm Beach County. It is also imperative that 8 this be done so no voter gets lost in the shuffle and that 9 every vote counts without confusion. It is with that end 10 that I call for responsible and compact lines to be drawn, 11 for fairness for all, and I want to get this really loud 12 and clear, in a nonpartisan way.</p> <p>13 Before I end, I must ask, with all this wonderful 14 technology we have available for the first time in history, 15 where are the guidelines? Which guidelines do we use? 16 And, lastly, will we be able to see the draft proposal 17 after the public hearings? And when? And will -- 18 (Applause.)</p> <p>19 MS. DUBIN: -- and will we have input in these 20 proposals? And when? I will wait. (Pause.) Will we see 21 any guidelines? What guidelines are we going by? We have 22 no answers for our constituents. Do you?</p> <p>23 (Pause.)</p> <p>24 SENATOR KLEIN: Mr. Chairman?</p> <p>25 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: We are here to listen to the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p> <p>1 us that we should seek equality in all our endeavors, but 2 in particular those that affect the lives of others.</p> <p>3 It has been rumored that one of the ploys is to redraw 4 the lines so as to put Congressmen Wexler and Deutsch 5 within the same district. This tactic would be utterly 6 antithetical to the ideals of seeking, of going beyond 7 just, self-serving motives. These are good men. These are 8 respected men. These are men who represent the 9 constituents. To blend these two districts as a means of 10 squashing one is to stomp on the needs and interests of the 11 constituents and to squelch their contentment with 12 Congress.</p> <p>13 Someday all of you will be retired and spending most 14 of your day resting in some comfortable chair. Then your 15 minds will travel back over all the decisions you have made 16 in your lives. In that journey you will return here. At 17 that time, you will either be haunted by shame or lifted, 18 lifted by a sense of --</p> <p>19 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Twenty seconds.</p> <p>20 MS. GANZ: -- pride. I challenge you to soar with the 21 wind of the eagle.</p> <p>22 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 29.</p> <p>23 MR. ROTHMAN: Chairman, my name is Herbert Rothman, I 24 live in District 89. I don't want to sound repetitive or 25 anything, but I just hope you keep it intact. That's about</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p>1 all I can say and I think you will do a great job. Thank 2 you.</p> <p>3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 32.</p> <p>4 MR. LAINE: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, and members of 5 the committee. My name is Marvin Laine, and I reside in 6 the West Point area of Palm Beach County. I want to thank 7 you for scheduling this meeting here tonight. I'll be 8 brief because of the hour.</p> <p>9 Redistricting should be accomplished in a fair and 10 equitable manner. Politics at this time must be put aside. 11 We cannot allow this to be a partisan exercise.</p> <p>12 Congressman Robert Wexler, Congressional District 19, and 13 State Senator Ron Klein from District 28, and State Rep 14 Annie Gannon in District 88 have been proactive in their 15 communities. They have established a close relationship 16 with seniors, retirees, veterans, women, educational and 17 minority groups. They reside in their district and they 18 understand the issues affecting the people. And they are 19 always, I mean always available to their constituents.</p> <p>20 The state of Florida is under a national and world 21 spotlight due to our past presidential election. We are 22 asking you to do the right thing. Thank you very much.</p> <p>23 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 33.</p> <p>24 MR. MANNING: Thank you. My name is Marvin Manning. 25 I've been a resident of the state of Florida for 15 years, DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p>1 My name is Barry Haberman, I am the president and chairman 2 of the board of Boca Point, representing approximately 3 8,000 people.</p> <p>4 We have been very fortunate in that we have had two 5 great representatives; Senator Ron Klein, and Congressman 6 Wexler. They have done outstanding jobs. When I look at 7 them, I look at them as young men. They represent people 8 of their age and the senior citizens better than anyone 9 that I have ever seen. And they also represent the 10 middle-aged group, which I belong to.</p> <p>11 It is very important that you keep people that live in 12 an area, that care about the area, in that area. Also, 13 what we would appreciate -- and as chairman I'd like to 14 make Senator Klein a member of Boca Point so you can never 15 take him away from us because that's how much we appreciate 16 all the work that he has done. When he was a State Rep, 17 not in our district and we had a problem we went to him and 18 he heard our request and he acted upon it. We couldn't 19 vote for him, but he still cared about us.</p> <p>20 Along those same lines, we have a Representative from 21 Broward County. We would like, as had been requested by 22 Broken Sound, that Representative Slosberg represent us 23 also. He lives three minutes away from Boca Point. He 24 cares about the community. It is important that you get 25 people that care about the place that they vote. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p>1 for the past four years I'm a resident of Palm Beach 2 County. I am from Century Village, I am currently 3 president of my association, I am also vice president of 4 the Democratic Club within The Village.</p> <p>5 I recognize the desire of each political party to 6 redistrict so as to elect the majority of their candidates. 7 I suggest that to predict ten years into the future the 8 political population mix of the lines you seek to draw is 9 almost impossible. I would hope that the redistricting 10 committee would instead give high priority to establishing 11 districts which would most closely represent a strong 12 commonality of community interests. The result would be 13 elected representatives able to represent their 14 constituents more effectively.</p> <p>15 With this scenario, we would also be able to monitor 16 with a greater degree of sensitivity changes in the 17 political population mix during the ten-year redistricting 18 period. The end result would most certainly be a more 19 effective and better representative government for all the 20 people of Florida.</p> <p>21 In closing I would remind you that your job is to 22 redistrict. It should not end up being done by the 23 judiciary. Thank you.</p> <p>24 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 34.</p> <p>25 MR. HABERMAN: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p> <p>1 As members of the party keep changing back and forth 2 it is important that you vote on this issue as nonpartisan 3 because you do not know which party you might be in down 4 the road. So please keep it nonpartisan, keep Senator 5 Klein, Congressman Wexler, and please bring Irv Slosberg to 6 our area also.</p> <p>7 Thank you very much and thank you for coming to give 8 us this opportunity.</p> <p>9 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 35.</p> <p>10 MS. BLUSTEIN: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, and members 11 of the committee. Thank you for giving me the opportunity 12 to address you. My name is Helen Blustein, I live in 13 King's Point, Delray, which is almost a city in itself. I 14 am president of the King's Point Democratic Club.</p> <p>15 We consider ourselves a community of interest. We are 16 a culturally cohesive community with seniors and many of us 17 are close in age. Many of us have lived here 20 years or 18 more. Please, don't divide us. We love the 19 representatives we have. We know that we can call the 20 offices of our legislators and get a response immediately. 21 We have a wonderful relationship with State Senator Ron 22 Klein, State Representative Slosberg and of course with our 23 Congressman Robert Wexler. Please, don't divide our 24 community. Dividing our community will be very upsetting 25 to us. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p> <p>1 Ladies and gentlemen, I'm repeating what everyone else 2 has said, but I must urge you to be fair in this process. 3 I urge you to hold additional public meetings to inform the 4 public of the results of these hearings and if possible, to 5 provide maps to the newspaper so that we have a better 6 understanding of the results. 7 Again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to 8 address you and please listen to us. 9 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 36. 10 (No response.) 11 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 36? 12 (No response.) 13 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 37. 14 MR. SCHILLER: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, and members 15 of the committee, my name is Julius Schiller. I live in 16 West Boynton, and I want to thank you for the hearing here 17 in Delray Beach which has made it possible for me to 18 participate. 19 Current districts have made it possible to elect State 20 Representatives, Senators and Congressional representatives 21 who work for our well-being and are truly an extension of 22 the communities they represent and actually live in. We 23 would want to keep the districts as they are so that we may 24 continue to elect caring representatives who interact with 25 diverse ethnic groups, understand community needs and DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p>1 things that will be considered by the committee; 2 contiguity, compactness, community of interest, population 3 shifts, minority fragmenting, contorted packing and so 4 forth. 5 We must feel that all of these have been factored in 6 appropriately. And we feel that it should be -- the 7 community should be made aware of what the guidelines are 8 that will go into these deliberations. 9 Minorities were undercounted in the census. It is -- 10 it was not known how you will compensate for that, you that 11 will be taken into consideration. There is much more that 12 I had on this sheet which I have taken out because it has 13 been said many times over. 14 And I know that yours is not a simple task, and it is 15 something that I feel that it is essential that you 16 continue to strive in a nonpartisan way to be fair of 17 course, as everybody else has said, adhere to your guiding 18 standard -- 19 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Ten seconds. 20 MR. SCHILLER: -- and constantly ask, What am I doing, 21 would this be fair, constantly work towards making sure 22 that you are acting in this manner. 23 And I thank you and I give you good luck. 24 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 38. No. 38? 25 (No response.) DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p> <p>1 interests, and take the time to be aware of our 2 educational, social services, health and other needs. 3 Our current representatives, Congressman Robert 4 Wexler, State Senator Ron Klein, and State Representative 5 Anne Gannon, go into the communities to visit students, 6 young families, seniors, the ill, veterans and more. And 7 generally these are not just token visits, but interactive 8 visits. What could be better than that? This is what the 9 community needs from their representatives. 10 We know that every ten years the census makes us aware 11 of where growth is. State limits mandate the need to bring 12 this into agreement with city laws. Without question this 13 needs to be done, but we hope it will be done free of 14 political inspiration and with fairness and in fairness for 15 all. 16 Standards and guidelines should be given to the 17 public. In other words, you will have standards, I'm sure, 18 and guidelines that you will go by. And these should be 19 given to the public together with the census data, maps, 20 precincts, and district lines for insight into where growth 21 is mandating change. 22 In drawing up the lines for revising districts, it 23 would be helpful to know the guidelines and principles that 24 have been put in place. For the public to respond 25 meaningfully, we need to be informed. There are many DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 39. 2 MR. ROMINE: Senators, Representatives, and fellow 3 constituents, allow me to introduce myself. My name is 4 Will Romine, I am 17. I am a member of the Olympic Heights 5 Student Council and cocaptain of the debate team. 6 I'm sure many of you have noticed that I am 7 significantly younger than many of the constituents in this 8 room. However, I do believe that I have one thing in 9 common with every last person in this room. I believe that 10 democracy works. Many of you mentioned that in the past 11 you fought for this very same democracy. 12 However, I indeed want to preserve this democracy in 13 much the same way you do and as many have stated before 14 they wish this democracy to be fragmented, to be altered 15 from its current state. And as a previous speaker stated, 16 if it ain't broke, don't fix it. 17 Now I believe that the phrase one person, one vote has 18 been reiterated many times in this chamber. Now this 19 concern is valid, but unnecessary. The fact of the matter 20 is that one person is essentially given one vote, and the 21 fact of the matter is that how they choose to use this vote 22 in no way should be affected by the redistricting. The 23 redistricting is superfluous, it is unnecessary and 24 therefore it should not take effect. 25 The fact of the matter is that the redistricting DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 66</p> <p>1 emphasizes politics over people. The fact of the matter is 2 that through my sociology classes I have learned that 3 people are creatures of habit. And thus to change their 4 habit would not only be a mange to them it would be a mange 5 to our entire state. And I will not stand by and stand 6 idly while that happens. 7 Now I do realize that many -- that over the past ten 8 years many of the counties have, and the districts, have 9 been augmented and decreased in size. However, this 10 concern should be of the county and not of the entire 11 Legislature in session being that these smaller -- that to 12 redistrict would be pandering to these smaller counties. 13 The fact of the matter is their population is thus 14 because of the way that their counties are administered. 15 If they choose to continue to administer their counties in 16 the way they do, then their population will reflect that. 17 Now I do realize that many others have families that 18 they would like to go home to, and therefore I yield the 19 balance -- or I yield the floor to other speakers. Sorry, 20 senior moment. 21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 40. 22 (No response.) 23 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 41. 24 MR. MOVEHINE: Gentleman and ladies, my name is Harry 25 Movehine, I'm from Rainberry Bay right here in Delray, and DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 68</p> <p>1 MS. YATES: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, and members of 2 the committee. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to 3 be here. My name is Mae Yates, I live in King's Point, 4 Delray Beach. I'm on the governing board in King's Point 5 and the governing board represents 13,000 people, an adult 6 community. We consistently have the highest percentage of 7 voter turnout at election day. 8 You have the awesome job of drawing the district lines 9 and we have the deep concern that you be fair, that you do 10 not draw lines for partisan and political reasons. You 11 cannot cut up communities into separate districts. We shop 12 in Palm Beach County, we go to the restaurants in Palm 13 Beach County, entertainment, our meetings are all in Palm 14 Beach County. 15 When I came to Palm Beach County 22 years ago, we had 16 a population of 500,000. It is now well over 1 million. 17 You saw the figures, 1,131,000. Enough people to fill all 18 the districts needed. You don't have to go hunting into 19 other districts in order to fill -- in other counties in 20 order to fill a district. 21 We are all familiar with the term to gerrymander. We 22 know how the word originated, we know the havoc it has 23 brought to the people in northern Ireland. Our communities 24 have common interests, common problems, common agendas, we 25 are very well served by our Congressman Robert Wexler, our DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 67</p> <p>1 I'm going to use one old word and one new word. I'm most 2 interested in talking to you about fairness and 3 proportionality. I think it is in all our interests to be 4 fair and honest and equal in redistricting election areas, 5 precincts, and everything else in Florida. 6 Proportionality is an important thing. It certainly 7 will not be in our interest to have the eyes of the rest of 8 the United States focussed on us by the media, particularly 9 CNN, as we had last autumn. Florida and Palm Beach County 10 in particular certainly does not need that sort of 11 attention foisted upon us again as we did last year. 12 All we want for this county and district is to have 13 the existing lines fairly divided. Again, again and again, 14 we are very comfortable with our representatives in 15 Congress and the State Legislature, many of whom are seated 16 among you. We love them dearly and they respond to our 17 needs as best as they can. 18 So we implore you that in your deliberation be fair 19 and overtly public, make sure that all districts in the 20 state are fairly divided, and adjudicated. We do not need 21 any further media attention heaped upon our state and our 22 county. 23 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 42. 24 (No response.) 25 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: 43. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 69</p> <p>1 State Senator Ron Klein. They live in Palm Beach County, 2 Representative Slosberg lives in Palm Beach County, so does 3 our Representative Anne Gannon. Please, I beg you, don't 4 tear us apart. 5 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 44. 6 MS. LAZAR: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of the 7 committee, I'd like to welcome you to Palm Beach County, as 8 have others previously. My name is Charna Lazar, I live in 9 the city of Boca Raton. 10 And the city of Boca Raton which has 70,000 or so 11 people has the distinct privilege of having three separate 12 Congressional districts. I think that's a little too much. 13 And I would like to see something a little more reflective 14 of common sense, as well as fairness. 15 I am particularly interested today in the fact that I 16 see a couple of people here who represent the city of Boca 17 Raton, among other parts of South Florida, whom I have 18 never seen before at any meeting. And I think that should 19 indicate to you what some of the problems are when you have 20 these districts that run in snake patterns or jellyfish 21 patterns or donut patterns all over the place where there 22 is no contiguity and there is no commonality of interest or 23 of population. 24 And I urge you as you do this redistricting to please 25 bear in mind that the information we got at the beginning DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 70</p> <p>1 of this hearing indicates that Palm Beach County now has 2 well over 1 million citizens and we ought to have 3 representation that lives and understands Palm Beach 4 County. Thank you very much.</p> <p>5 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 45.</p> <p>6 MR. CEA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the 7 committee, my name is William Cea, and I am a resident of 8 Boca Raton. I'm here on behalf of two organizations. I am 9 a regional board member of the National Alliance of Retired 10 Americans, representing 13 southern states, and we have 11 over 106,000 members of our Florida organization. I'm also 12 the president of the New York State Retired Teachers in 13 Florida, with several thousand members.</p> <p>14 Much of what I was going to say has already been said. 15 But rather than leave my constituents without a 16 spokesperson I felt it was beneficial to stay here just to 17 tell you that we are represented.</p> <p>18 Personally we have three excellent representatives in 19 our district where I live; Robert Wexler, Ron Klein and 20 Irving Slosberg. Our organizations that I am representing, 21 however, are nonpartisan. Therefore, I am coming to you 22 from the standpoint of a citizen who does not come with a 23 partisan agenda but is urging you to consider the 24 ramifications of the job you are doing.</p> <p>25 We appreciate the fact that you are here to seek DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 72</p> <p>1 like Florida where we have a structure in the last election 2 where so many people are viewing all of the shortcomings 3 that may have taken place and now we have a process of 4 redistricting taking place that people are going to be 5 looking doubly close to see, Well, are my preconditioned 6 ideas true or not? Or is it going to be repeated in the 7 State Legislature as some people may feel --</p> <p>8 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Twenty seconds.</p> <p>9 MR. CEA: -- was done in the last election.</p> <p>10 I do have one question to ask at the end. And, that 11 is, after you have an opportunity to reflect on the input 12 that's been given, will we, the constituency, have an 13 opportunity to review the maps that are tentative so that 14 we can then give an input back again as to our views as to 15 the work that's done by our legislators.</p> <p>16 And I ask that, Mr. Chairman, as a closing question.</p> <p>17 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 47.</p> <p>18 MR. CEA: Could I have an answer to that question, 19 Mr. Chairman? Will at least the committee consider that as 20 a recommendation to be brought back and discussed?</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Yes, we are here to hear from you. 22 That's what we want to do. If we make up our mind now, 23 then we will be premature.</p> <p>24 MR. CEA: I wouldn't expect you to make up your mind 25 now, Mr. Chairman. What I am saying is would the committee DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 71</p> <p>1 input. We also have concerns as to after the input is 2 given and you folks and the remainder of the Legislature 3 reflects upon the input and it comes time to draw those 4 lines that we want to feel comfortable that you considered 5 what was given as input at these hearings.</p> <p>6 The question of compactness. You know, my members go 7 all the way to the west coast. And I thought the first 8 time that I drove across from Boca Raton to Ft. Myers I 9 thought there were two Senator Tom Rossins. I'm sure many 10 of you have seen that during your travels. I was amazed. 11 When I came back I found out, no, it was the same person 12 who had a district that went from the east to the west 13 coast.</p> <p>14 Obviously it is important that people have their 15 legislators near them so that when they have concerns they 16 have the opportunity to meet with them and share them. I 17 am also a former instructor in political science so I 18 understand the story when you talk about gerrymandering or 19 redistricting and we understand that the majority in 20 politics always has the upper hand when it comes to things 21 such as redistricting. It would be naivete to think 22 otherwise. But the rights of the minority as spelled out 23 in the Federalist Papers by James Madison have to be 24 respected also in a democracy.</p> <p>25 I think it is all the more important in a situation DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 73</p> <p>1 consider making a recommendation to the full Legislature 2 after preliminary maps are drawn up to possibly come back 3 and hear input once again from the constituents?</p> <p>4 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: We are listening to every person 5 that speaks.</p> <p>6 MR. CEA: I thank you, Mr. Chairman.</p> <p>7 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 47.</p> <p>8 THE WITNESS: 46 is next.</p> <p>9 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: 46, you are recognized.</p> <p>10 MS. CONNER: I won't take it personally. I am so 11 darned impressed with all of you, and I mean that from the 12 bottom of my heart. I cannot believe the kinds of jobs 13 that legislators do that most average citizens do not know 14 they undertake. And I do appreciate the time you are 15 spending. I have been sitting here watching since 6:00, 16 all of you are attentive and you are paying wonderful 17 attention. I guess it is the teacher in me that just 18 wanted to say, Good job.</p> <p>19 My name is Janet Conner and I live in Plantation, 20 Florida. I understand or I think I understand that your 21 position or the position you are taking is that the purpose 22 of these hearings is to receive input from the public. 23 Well that's commendable and obviously very important. I am 24 submitting to you that our input will be far more valuable 25 had we been educated more on the process before coming here DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 74</p> <p>1 tonight.</p> <p>2 Senator Scott's presentation provided information that</p> <p>3 I found useful. But it is the kind of information that I</p> <p>4 wish the citizens of Florida had had to convince them of</p> <p>5 the importance of coming here in the first place. The</p> <p>6 presentation by Mr. Thomson was also very educational.</p> <p>7 But, again, it was provided to us just minutes before we</p> <p>8 were asked to speak.</p> <p>9 Because redistricting happens only once every ten</p> <p>10 years the average citizens find the subject foreign and</p> <p>11 irrelevant. And I'll give you a case in point. In the</p> <p>12 early 1980s when redistricting came around, I was the</p> <p>13 mother of four, washing diapers and baking bread. The last</p> <p>14 thing I cared about or paid any attention to was</p> <p>15 redistricting. Ten years later in '92 those same children</p> <p>16 were hanging around, and I was going back to school to</p> <p>17 become a teacher and so again that thing called</p> <p>18 redistricting was very irrelevant to me.</p> <p>19 What I am trying to say is that if it weren't my honor</p> <p>20 and duty to represent 10,000 teachers in Broward and some</p> <p>21 in Palm Beach County, I probably still wouldn't know any</p> <p>22 more about redistricting. Because it was incumbent on me</p> <p>23 to represent those teachers, I needed to learn as much as I</p> <p>24 can, but it is not the kind of thing that people go out and</p> <p>25 look for. And I would hope that we would provide an</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 76</p> <p>1 I have been represented very well. Senator Jim Scott did a</p> <p>2 good job, he was responsive, Debbie Sanderson was always</p> <p>3 available. And I might add also that she is one that's</p> <p>4 carried the banner for veterans in both Broward and Palm</p> <p>5 Beach Counties.</p> <p>6 And we have a new legislator, Connie Mack, who I have</p> <p>7 called and they call me back anytime I want them to call me</p> <p>8 back. They do a good job. They rose to the occasion when</p> <p>9 this thing was fooled with ten years ago. So county lines</p> <p>10 I believe in a statewide situation don't matter as much,</p> <p>11 not like communities likes condominium associations and</p> <p>12 cities, yes, I could see where that would be fracturing.</p> <p>13 But going across a county line to gain a population that</p> <p>14 you need to have a district and also make sure there are</p> <p>15 contiguous situations, as aberrated as it looks to have</p> <p>16 some minority people get representation, I think that's</p> <p>17 very important.</p> <p>18 And I commend these three legislators, especially Jim</p> <p>19 Scott and Debbie Sanderson for rising to the occasion that</p> <p>20 they did back in those days.</p> <p>21 That's all I have to say.</p> <p>22 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 48.</p> <p>23 MR. STEELE: Mr. Chairman, and members of the</p> <p>24 committee, my name is Mel Steele. I'm here tonight as a</p> <p>25 representative of my community, Casa Delray Home Owner's</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 75</p> <p>1 opportunity for most citizens to have more of an interest</p> <p>2 in this because it is so important, and because the impact</p> <p>3 is so great.</p> <p>4 Even the booklet, I was so impressed with this. And</p> <p>5 yet this booklet that you provided tonight, this is the</p> <p>6 first time I've seen it. How much I would have loved to</p> <p>7 have made this available to teachers and let those people</p> <p>8 make the decision on whether they wanted to be a part of</p> <p>9 this hearing or not.</p> <p>10 So what I am asking for is that you give us some time</p> <p>11 and that after you have drawn those maps perhaps you have</p> <p>12 some additional hearings and give us a chance to come back</p> <p>13 after we have evaluated, after we have learned something</p> <p>14 about redistricting, and that we have a chance to come back</p> <p>15 and comment on that as well. Thank you very much.</p> <p>16 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 47.</p> <p>17 MR. MURPHY: Honorable members of the committee, and,</p> <p>18 Mr. Chairman, my number is Bill Murphy and I don't</p> <p>19 represent anybody but myself. I'm just an ordinary foot</p> <p>20 soldier of life, I live in Boca Raton. I'm as far south in</p> <p>21 the county and as far south in Boca east of 95 that you can</p> <p>22 be. Across the street from me is the Hillsborough Canal.</p> <p>23 When this was done ten years ago, this redistricting,</p> <p>24 it was of concern to me that, hey, my legislator and</p> <p>25 Senator are down in Broward County. Well, as it turned out</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 77</p> <p>1 Association, as a member of the Alliance of Delray</p> <p>2 Communities, and the South County Democratic Club.</p> <p>3 I believe any gerrymandering for the purpose of race,</p> <p>4 ethnicity, culture or partisan politics is not only</p> <p>5 undemocratic, but unAmerican. It is beneath the ethics and</p> <p>6 integrity demanded of you by a democracy and the people you</p> <p>7 represent. Districts that encompass three, five or seven</p> <p>8 counties or go from east coast to west coast are not good</p> <p>9 government.</p> <p>10 Yours is a Herculean task, a Solomon-like task. Do it</p> <p>11 well, but do it fairly. Thank you.</p> <p>12 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 49.</p> <p>13 MS. SLAVIN: Good evening, members of the committee.</p> <p>14 My name is Jay, J-A-Y, Slavin, S-L-A-V-I-N. And I'm here</p> <p>15 representing the Florida Silver Haired Legislature. I'm</p> <p>16 sure you are all familiar with them. I know that my</p> <p>17 Representative, my Congressman and my Senator are very</p> <p>18 familiar. We meet in Tallahassee once a year, we have been</p> <p>19 in existence 25 years, we write legislation, which we hope</p> <p>20 you will read and pass, and occasionally you do, not often,</p> <p>21 but sometimes you do. And I hope you will more from now</p> <p>22 on.</p> <p>23 Before I tell you why I am here, I want to recommend</p> <p>24 to you very highly, you have heard enough about the love</p> <p>25 that we have for our Congressmen and our Senator and our</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 78</p> <p>1 Representative, but this young lady, very young lady named 2 Nancy Ganz, G-A-N-Z, spoke a little while ago. She had to 3 leave because she has little children and she left them 4 with a sitter and she had to go home. I would like to 5 strongly ask you to read what that young lady said. I 6 think she was the best speaker tonight.</p> <p>7 Now I'd like to tell you what I had to say. This date 8 that this meeting was held was a very, very poor date for 9 the population of South Palm Beach County because most of 10 the people are not here. This room would have had four 11 times the number of people if you had had this meeting on 12 October 6th instead of September 6th. They are not here, 13 we couldn't get them here, the highest holidays which they 14 observe is held in this month, and they are not over until 15 September 27th. If you had had this meeting a few days 16 afterwards, they would have had a chance to speak to you 17 too and to meet you. And I feel badly about that. And 18 that should not happen again.</p> <p>19 Now I'd like to ask you something else. When the 20 lines are drawn and the guidelines are up, and it is 21 available to the public to see, I ask you, please, come 22 back to this community and give us a chance to speak to you 23 again because thousands of people are not here because they 24 are not in Florida at this time. And I would appreciate 25 your attention to that. Thank you very much.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 80</p> <p>1 MS. MUNGOI: Hi, I have lived here 55 years of my 60 2 years in South Florida, now you know my age; 40 years in 3 Broward County and 15 years in Palm Beach County.</p> <p>4 I don't think it matters what county a legislator 5 lives in. I believe people, for instance, east of I-95 6 have the same issues in common whether it be Palm Beach or 7 Broward County. Just like the people that live west of 8 I-95 have the same issues whether it be West Palm Beach or 9 Broward County. The important thing is that your 10 legislator be accessible and caring and willing to help in 11 your needs. I certainly have no complaints. Congressman 12 Shaw has always answered my calls.</p> <p>13 And tonight, Senator Sanderson, seeing you sit over 14 there I can only tell you that you were always accessible 15 to your constituents. Thank you.</p> <p>16 REPRESENTATIVE BALL: Thank you, ma'am. No. 53.</p> <p>17 MS. DAVIDSON: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, 18 and my wonderful representatives who are sitting here. And 19 I know that if Robert Wexler could, he would be here, too.</p> <p>20 I vote in District 90, Senator Ron Klein is my State 21 Senator, my House Representative is Richard Machek. And it 22 doesn't matter what those names are, but when I can E-mail 23 somebody and get an answer, when I can pick up a phone and 24 get an answer, as an individual that makes me very happy.</p> <p>25 But my life is a little bigger than just me as an DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 79</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 50. 2 (No response.)</p> <p>3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 51.</p> <p>4 MR. KATZ: Mr. Chairman, gentlemen of the committee, 5 first of all I am not -- I'm the new kid on the block, I am 6 only here about four years.</p> <p>7 Mr. Chairman, the public is being told that you will 8 broadcast late hearings on Florida public television 9 stations. Can you tell us, Mr. Chairman, which hearings 10 will be broadcast and why those particular hearings were 11 selected rather than all the hearings being broadcast? Can 12 you at least tell us whether this hearing or the other 13 hearing that was held in West Palm Beach yesterday will be 14 broadcast and if so on which station and when?</p> <p>15 Also, Mr. Chairman, I would request that the list of 16 those hearings which are to be broadcast be published on 17 both the Senate and House web sites along with identifying 18 information of the TV station so that people who are not 19 able to attend the hearing can at least find out what they 20 missed by not being here.</p> <p>21 As the previous speaker spoke many of the people will 22 not be down for approximately another month. I think they 23 should be advised and know what's been going on. Thank 24 you.</p> <p>25 REPRESENTATIVE BALL: Thank you, No. 52. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 81</p> <p>1 individual. I represent somewhere in the neighborhood of 2 10,000 retired teachers from the City of New York who now 3 live and vote in Florida. And in this area we represent 4 over 2400 teachers. I find that statistically as a math 5 teacher, if you are in your 70s, 70 percent of the vote in 6 Palm Beach County turns out, if you are in your 60s, 60 7 percent turn out, if you are in your 50s, 50 percent turn 8 out, and if you are in your 30s and 40s, 30 percent turn 9 out.</p> <p>10 What is the meaning of that statistic? Well in this 11 county, we have a heck of a lot of seniors and they turn 12 out to vote. And they turn out to vote for two reasons. 13 They think it is important to be part of the democratic 14 process. And the second reason is they want to be heard. 15 Just as I appreciate the fact that you are letting me be 16 heard tonight. And I mean that with all my heart.</p> <p>17 But I also take pride as a teacher, and my first time 18 that I ever went into the classroom, I was told, Don't play 19 favoritisms, be fair to every child in the room, make sure 20 that everybody has an equal opportunity to say what he or 21 she wants to say, and then have discussions, come back so 22 that everybody is a part of this whole feeling of what's 23 going on in the classroom.</p> <p>24 And I want to extend that to the state I have now 25 lived in for 12 years. I love this state and I want to DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 82</p> <p>1 feel that I am part of what will happen in this 2 representation of districting that comes up. 3 I thank from the bottom of my heart my House 4 Representative, Mr. Machek, my State Senator, Ron Klein, 5 and Robert Wexler wherever you are. 6 REPRESENTATIVE BALL: No. 54. 7 MS. RE: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I would 8 like to congratulate you for being, keeping your eyes open 9 and being so polite and civil tonight. 10 My name is Bonnie Re, I live in this district which is 11 my District 87, I live in Broken Sound and I'm here tonight 12 representing myself, but most of all I'm representing the 13 Florida Federation of Republican Women. We are a little 14 over 100,000 strong in Florida and we are 500,000 strong in 15 the nation. It's called the National Federation of 16 Republican Women. 17 I have to say one thing tonight. I wasn't planning on 18 speaking, but I heard so much about fairness and equity and 19 equality that I think you must, you'll dream about it 20 tonight. 21 But I have to say Democrats didn't think too much 22 about fairness when they arrogantly have controlled the 23 redistricting since Reconstruction. But this time, folks, 24 Republicans are in charge. We have 35 percent of 25 Republican registration in Palm Beach County, we have DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 84</p> <p>1 (No response.) 2 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 56. 3 MS. ELLINGTON: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. 4 My name is Dorothy Ellington, and I live within Anne 5 Gannon's District 88 in western Boynton Beach. 6 Because of election 2000 I am concerned about the 7 fairness of this process. I am a native Floridian and I 8 was embarrassed at what happened in the state of my birth 9 in November 2000. We hope that this process will see 10 partisanship set aside in order to show the rest of the 11 country that we are not a corrupt state. I hope, too, that 12 public hearings will be held after the lines are drawn, and 13 that we are allowed an opportunity to again come before you 14 and comment on what you are going to consider. 15 Please consider the comments expressed so eloquently 16 by others before me as they relate to non-right population 17 interests. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to 18 speak. Good night. 19 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 57. 20 (No response.) 21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 58. 22 MS. RAHMING: Good afternoon or good night, my name is 23 Lena Rahming. I was born in the Bahamas, I came to Boynton 24 Beach about 40-some years ago. 25 And I want you to know when I arrived in Boynton DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 83</p> <p>1 45 percent Democrat with about 10 percent Independent and 2 minority. 3 I feel, and I know all of my constituents in our area 4 feel the same way, without Debbie Sanderson, without Clay 5 Shaw, Mark Foley to the north, even Ken Pruitt, even Connie 6 Mack, we have no representation in Boca Raton and in Palm 7 Beach County. 8 Robert Wexler has always been unavailable when a 9 Republican calls. That is true, my friends. He does not 10 live in Palm Beach County, he lives in Washington, D.C. 11 with his family. He has an office on Military Trail. Now 12 I thought that you needed to live in the district that you 13 represent, correct? Clay Shaw's district is too long for 14 him to represent everyone equally. Starting out in Dade 15 County, running through Broward to Palm Beach, north of 16 Palm Beach proper is ludicrous. 17 Now I heard the word gerrymandering so many times 18 tonight also. I think really it is quite funny because 19 Democrats did this ten years ago. They gerrymandered to 20 their own benefit. And I would like to say tonight that I 21 would hope that the city or the area in Boca Raton, Delray, 22 Boynton, has another congressional district. The bulk of 23 Boca needs another congressional district. 24 And I thank you very much for your time. 25 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 55. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 85</p> <p>1 there weren't anybody who were walking in the trenches 2 trying to get people together to become one. It really 3 hurts for me to sit here tonight to hear people just 4 trashing other people. That's a disgrace, especially 5 Wexler. He doesn't represent Boynton, he doesn't represent 6 me, but whenever we need him, we would call him and he 7 would respond. I had to say something to that. 8 And I want all of you to know, Congressman Alcee 9 Hastings, whether you are black, white or indifferent, he 10 is there for you. Mandy Dawson, she is there for you. 11 When we need food to put on the table for whatever color 12 you are, they are there for you. Ron Klein, he comes to 13 Boynton all the time, he is a good man. 14 And Susan Bucher, we had a delegation at my center, I 15 am the center director for Head Start in Boynton, she was 16 there, many others was there, Mandy Dawson was there. 17 Whenever we need money or clothing for our children, for 18 the citizens, Mandy Dawson, Alcee Hastings, Susan Bucher, 19 and Wexler and everybody else we call upon, they are there. 20 It is a disgrace and a shame for anyone to stand up 21 here and low rate our Congressman or Senator knowing you 22 are lying. And it is a disgrace. 23 And I say to you tonight, What is fairness? And I 24 think fairness is what justice really is. And tonight I 25 felt that I wasn't treated fairly because I had to wait so DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 86</p> <p>1 long. I'm black, the second black one that came up here. 2 My father -- my mother is white, my father is black. So I 3 guess I am black. 4 But what I'm saying, color doesn't matter. Be 5 truthful, be fair, be honest and speak the truth. And 6 whatever the Congressman and those are doing you don't have 7 to come here and trash them. And I'm speaking on behalf of 8 those persons I named, Alcee Hastings, Mandy Dawson, who 9 lived in Boca Raton for two or three years. Some of you in 10 here, elected officials, I'm quite sure you-all did not 11 know that. But she did live in Boca Raton, and she is 12 doing an excellent job. 13 And it hurts me tonight to hear so many come up and 14 just trash people. And I thank you. 15 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 59. 16 (No response.) 17 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 60? 18 MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Chairman, and members of the 19 committee, my name is Wilfred Taylor. I live in Boynton 20 Beach and am one of the board members of the Florida Silver 21 Legislators. I guess you know one of my board members was 22 up here and she speak to you about members who would like 23 to be here but they are not here. 24 Many things have been said, many things have been said 25 by many people. And to know the truth, to hear from them DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 88</p> <p>1 those as you would help those who are younger or yourself. 2 Thank you very much. 3 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 61. 4 MR. KAPLAN: Chairman and committee, I want to thank 5 the people that are also sitting in the audience. They 6 have been very, very patient. I hope they get some sage 7 advice in what I want to say, too. 8 Many of the speakers have talked about their 9 credentials and I would like to very briefly say mine. I 10 have been a long, active political activist, and my 11 political start came with the city, the CCNY, College of 12 the City of New York, when Mussolini sent his 13 brother-in-law, Cal Siano (phonetic), to talk about the 14 wonders of fascism. I have never forgotten the 15 demonstration that we gave and we overturned the whole 16 situation there. He never spoke. 17 But for 87 years I have not been able to shake my 18 opposition to what I believe to be unfair. I am not 19 completely satisfied with the spirit of even this meeting. 20 I had attended a meeting some ten years ago on this very 21 subject. It was held in the Palm Beach Community College, 22 on the campus of Palm Beach Community College. When I went 23 there, I was pretty much aware of what was taking place. I 24 pretty much was aware of the maps, the boundaries. The 25 newspaper had a heck of a lot more information about what DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 87</p> <p>1 and whether they are speaking truth or not, I don't know. 2 I have been a Florida voter for, since I think 1960 -- no, 3 I think wrong, earlier than that. But I've lived in 4 Florida over 40-some years. And many of you who are 5 sitting on the panel right there, I might be a part of one 6 that votes for you. I may be one who cared and voted for 7 good government. 8 I do believe every time I get to vote for a candidate 9 I believe I am voting for good government. I believe the 10 government can have us much better in their own way. 11 Fairness, which fairness of what? Justice bothers me. 12 Justice for all. I don't know where justice is right now. 13 And I don't think one of you on the panel can tell me 14 exactly the meaning of justice because many of us do not 15 get justice. Even the court system is no justice. And I 16 want you to believe even the kids, our little kids who are 17 grown up, look for fairness and justice to them, and they 18 are not getting it. 19 You who are on the Congress understand it. Please 20 consider what I am telling you, our children need us. The 21 senior citizens are catching hell and I'm telling you why, 22 because they are not getting the right treatment. And I'm 23 here to stand before you telling you that and I want you to 24 take good notice. 25 And please listen to me, and they need help. And help DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 89</p> <p>1 this meeting is all about. And I personally was prepared. 2 I think the constituents here at this particular 3 meeting were not that well prepared. I wanted to find out 4 and wasn't able to find maps or anything. And I think 5 that's a shortcoming. 6 I am opposed to the suggestion that I read in today's 7 paper about Commissioner Mary McCarty who said she 8 suggested redistricting be made so that Republicans today 9 would get a better representation. I am opposed to 10 redistricting when it is favoring the Democrats or the 11 Republicans. I think the best candidates should be put 12 forward on the basis of equality of the interests of the 13 community. 14 I personally am very satisfied with my 15 representatives, every one of them, they are good people. 16 But we cannot consider redistricting based on that 17 consideration. We have to look for the best possible 18 candidate to be represented in the interest of the 19 community. 20 It is partisan politics maneuvering that is at fault. 21 Let this committee rise above its pettiness and really take 22 the interests of the community in their interest. I am 23 thinking of Huntington Lakes, a community that has a common 24 denominator, common interests, two different districts. I 25 am wondering who ever designed Alcee Hastings' area. It is DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 90</p> <p>1 almost inconceivable that --</p> <p>2 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Twenty seconds.</p> <p>3 MR. KAPLAN: -- and one other thing I'd like to say is</p> <p>4 when you do, as has been said before, I'm very much</p> <p>5 interested in this, is when you do make a decision please</p> <p>6 let these constituents know what it is all about so we can</p> <p>7 help the input in it. I want to thank you.</p> <p>8 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 62.</p> <p>9 (No response.)</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 63.</p> <p>11 (No response.)</p> <p>12 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 64.</p> <p>13 MR. BENNETT: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, committee</p> <p>14 members. My name is John Bennett, and I am the president</p> <p>15 of Progressive Residents of Delray, also known as PROD, the</p> <p>16 largest nonpartisan governmental watch kind of civic</p> <p>17 organization in the city.</p> <p>18 And our position -- or first I'd like to thank you for</p> <p>19 holding this additional hearing. I recognize that you are</p> <p>20 making a substantial sacrifice of time in your busy</p> <p>21 schedule, but it has substantially opened up the process</p> <p>22 and contributed to the fairness by allowing input.</p> <p>23 Our position, like many previous speakers, is that</p> <p>24 districts should be drawn in a manner that preserves</p> <p>25 commonality of interests, and that Palm Beach County</p> <p>DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 92</p> <p>1 nonresident has so far said he would come.</p> <p>2 So that's why we say we would like to have our</p> <p>3 districts drawn so that the people that represent us live</p> <p>4 with us. It would be nice if you did the job in a</p> <p>5 nonpartisan manner, but I recognize that the majority is in</p> <p>6 control of the process for the first time since</p> <p>7 Reconstruction, and as we used to say in the Navy, Paybacks</p> <p>8 are a bitch.</p> <p>9 But you might want to reflect on the latest experience</p> <p>10 of the Democrats. When they were in charge, they had the</p> <p>11 power, they used it and they drew the lines and apparently</p> <p>12 they misjudged the political and democratic trends because</p> <p>13 all of a sudden you guys are in charge.</p> <p>14 So I hope if you are going to do this in a political</p> <p>15 manner that you think about whether you really know what</p> <p>16 the future holds. And all your machinations, if you use</p> <p>17 them, may come for naught.</p> <p>18 But in any event, I'd like to close by saying that in</p> <p>19 1776 my forebearers joined a cause for freedom and</p> <p>20 democracy, and when they got the freedom they chose</p> <p>21 representative democracy. It would be nice in 2001 for the</p> <p>22 people of Palm Beach County if the Florida Legislature</p> <p>23 would grant them representative democracy by giving us</p> <p>24 Congressional and Legislative districts whose incumbents</p> <p>25 are representative of us because they live with us.</p> <p>DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 91</p> <p>1 deserves elected officials who live here so that they are</p> <p>2 accessible and do share those interests.</p> <p>3 Now we are nonpartisan so we don't care if they are</p> <p>4 Republicans, Democrats, Independents or Martians just so</p> <p>5 long as they share our interests. But I would like to tell</p> <p>6 you why it matters. Now last year our organization was</p> <p>7 asked to get involved in a delivery, delivery of a federal</p> <p>8 service in town. So on the letterhead I wrote to the three</p> <p>9 Congressmen who represent Delray Beach. You would think</p> <p>10 for a city of 60,000 three Congressmen would make you a</p> <p>11 powerhouse. Well, here is what happened, only one of them</p> <p>12 answered, the one that lives in Palm Beach County. The</p> <p>13 other two, the guy in Miami-Dade, and the guy in Fort</p> <p>14 Lauderdale, didn't bother to answer even to the tune of,</p> <p>15 Thanks for our letter, I'll look into it, and nothing more.</p> <p>16 But that was the extent of the answer.</p> <p>17 Similarly -- since they are different parties it is</p> <p>18 not a partisan matter, it is where you live and where your</p> <p>19 interests are. Similarly, the city had an occasion to</p> <p>20 write the Congressman about a matter affecting the city.</p> <p>21 And, once again, the nonresident didn't even bother to</p> <p>22 answer.</p> <p>23 This coming week after next, I guess, they have</p> <p>24 invited the delegation to come in and discuss about the</p> <p>25 legislative agenda for the next session. And only one</p> <p>DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 93</p> <p>1 Thank you.</p> <p>2 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 65.</p> <p>3 (No response.)</p> <p>4 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: No. 66.</p> <p>5 MS. BALME: Hi, my name is Brenda Balme, and I am not</p> <p>6 only a native of Florida but I'm also a native of Palm</p> <p>7 Beach County. I grew up in West Palm Beach and I now</p> <p>8 currently live in Boca Raton. For those of you who follow</p> <p>9 the Boca name wars, that's the real Boca.</p> <p>10 And right now I'm represented by people who live in</p> <p>11 Broward County. And I would much rather be married to the</p> <p>12 people who live in the southwest Palm Beach County known as</p> <p>13 West Boca or Delray and Boynton, rather than Broward</p> <p>14 County. I think these are two large counties, and I think</p> <p>15 that the people who represent Broward should live in</p> <p>16 Broward, and the people that represent Palm Beach County</p> <p>17 should live in Palm Beach County.</p> <p>18 Thank you.</p> <p>19 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. No. 67.</p> <p>20 (No response.)</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: That's all the cards we have</p> <p>22 tonight. As we have done in the past, we have allowed the</p> <p>23 members of the delegation first, if they wish, to address</p> <p>24 their constituents, and then any other members that would</p> <p>25 like to address their constituents.</p> <p>DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 94</p> <p>1 You are recognized now. Does someone want to do that?</p> <p>2 I think you should say something about those that came to</p> <p>3 support you.</p> <p>4 SENATOR DAWSON: If they are shy down on the other</p> <p>5 end.</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Senator Dawson.</p> <p>7 SENATOR DAWSON: Thank you. I want to thank you,</p> <p>8 Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, for bringing</p> <p>9 this meeting to the community. I think it has been quite</p> <p>10 interesting. And as always, as a member of the</p> <p>11 Legislature, there is never a dull moment.</p> <p>12 I have to say, too, that as one of the Senators that</p> <p>13 represents South County as well, I happen to represent</p> <p>14 eastern South County, and in 1998, when I was first</p> <p>15 elected, I had the privilege of being the only woman</p> <p>16 Senator from Key West to Orlando, until the other two</p> <p>17 Senators to the right and left of me were elected.</p> <p>18 As I said in the past at other meetings, I think that</p> <p>19 sometimes because people do feel somewhat alienated from</p> <p>20 the process and they don't really understand how we make</p> <p>21 our sausage, that communities that have more representation</p> <p>22 than just one Senator and one House member and one</p> <p>23 Congressional member, they are the communities that do</p> <p>24 extremely well when it comes down to the budget.</p> <p>25 And if we are not effective with our budgets, then</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 96</p> <p>1 done, it has not mattered to my colleagues whether I look</p> <p>2 different from them or whether I am asking them to support</p> <p>3 poor children in Boynton or whether they are asking me to</p> <p>4 support a well-to-do community west of Palm Beach County.</p> <p>5 I'll have to say, too, that when the Presidential</p> <p>6 election was kind of going different, I received many phone</p> <p>7 calls in my office. So obviously, and they were not from</p> <p>8 people that lived in my district. So people knew where I</p> <p>9 was. And at the end of the day, I was the one that got</p> <p>10 yelled at in public and actually had garbage thrown at me</p> <p>11 in public as a result.</p> <p>12 So I kind of would hope that the time that you have</p> <p>13 spent with us has been a thoughtful time. And perhaps we</p> <p>14 don't always have the opportunity to spend as much time as</p> <p>15 we could educating our public, but that's because you sent</p> <p>16 us to Tallahassee to do a job and that requires us to be</p> <p>17 away quite often.</p> <p>18 I look forward to continuing a working relationship</p> <p>19 with each of you, and we do want Ron Klein representing us</p> <p>20 still in Broward as well.</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Representative Slosberg, you are</p> <p>22 recognized.</p> <p>23 REPRESENTATIVE SLOSBERG: Thank you. First of all,</p> <p>24 I'd like to welcome all the Senators and Representatives,</p> <p>25 members of the committee to my district. And I really feel</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 95</p> <p>1 that means less money for education, less money for our</p> <p>2 seniors, and less money for the other issues that we are</p> <p>3 supposed to care about.</p> <p>4 It has also been difficult, and as was said in the</p> <p>5 past, I was a resident of East Boca for three years. And I</p> <p>6 left East Boca because the individual that I was attempting</p> <p>7 to buy a home, the home from actually went up about</p> <p>8 80 percent on the price that initially he was selling the</p> <p>9 home to me. I'm not so sure what that means, you can</p> <p>10 decide for yourself, which meant that I needed, I could not</p> <p>11 be a homeless Senator and I took the best offer that my</p> <p>12 pocketbook could handle, being reasonable.</p> <p>13 I also would like to say that having an opportunity to</p> <p>14 serve with Senator Klein, Senator Sanderson, Senator</p> <p>15 Rossin, and other Representatives that represent Palm Beach</p> <p>16 County, and Senator Klein represents Broward County as</p> <p>17 well. And we are not willing to give him up because we</p> <p>18 appreciate the fine work that he does as well.</p> <p>19 But it is difficult. Sometimes you don't get invited</p> <p>20 to places, sometimes people don't know your name. But what</p> <p>21 I would have to say is that we hope that we would be valued</p> <p>22 at what we do at the end of the day.</p> <p>23 As you can see, I am probably the one up here that</p> <p>24 looks different from everyone else, which has been for me,</p> <p>25 when it is time to do the work and to get the people's work</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 97</p> <p>1 that when we are back in Tallahassee that we understand</p> <p>2 what the problems of my district are.</p> <p>3 And even though most of the people who spoke aren't</p> <p>4 here anymore, the common thread was that we shouldn't break</p> <p>5 up buildings. I have two large condominiums in my district</p> <p>6 that are broken in half. And I have heard ten people say</p> <p>7 the same thing. Well, it is one thing me hearing them say</p> <p>8 the same thing, and it is another thing the members of the</p> <p>9 committee hearing them.</p> <p>10 And it is the same thing where I live a minute and a</p> <p>11 half away from Boca Point, and it is not in my district.</p> <p>12 However, that is another issue because that happens to</p> <p>13 everyone. But I think it is so important that the members</p> <p>14 of the committee here heard you can't break up buildings in</p> <p>15 half.</p> <p>16 And I would like to thank all the people who</p> <p>17 unfortunately are not here anymore and the people who are</p> <p>18 here who came out to support me, I really appreciate it.</p> <p>19 And I appreciate the members coming to listen to our story.</p> <p>20 Thank you.</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Senator Klein.</p> <p>22 SENATOR KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And, again,</p> <p>23 thank you-all for being here tonight. On behalf of the</p> <p>24 Palm Beach County delegation, and many of us are up here,</p> <p>25 Republicans and Democrats alike, we really do appreciate</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 98</p> <p>1 the public coming forward.</p> <p>2 And we thank the Chairman for allowing us to have a</p> <p>3 second hearing in Palm Beach County because it really did</p> <p>4 allow more people to have access to this meeting.</p> <p>5 Also, I would like to welcome all of our legislators</p> <p>6 from around the state. It has been a pleasure visiting in</p> <p>7 your communities, and it has been a great experience to</p> <p>8 have you in ours as well.</p> <p>9 Senator Dawson said something very interesting and she</p> <p>10 is absolutely right. We heard a lot about lines and</p> <p>11 keeping things within counties, and we do want to do that</p> <p>12 to the extent we can, but I think the bigger issue is</p> <p>13 performance also. For example, I represent a part of Palm</p> <p>14 Beach County, a part of Broward County, Senator Sanderson</p> <p>15 represents a part of Palm Beach County and lives in Broward</p> <p>16 County. And, you know, she obviously -- it is important to</p> <p>17 have many members participate in bringing things back home</p> <p>18 to the area.</p> <p>19 I think there were some common threads that I heard</p> <p>20 tonight and I just want to mention them again because it is</p> <p>21 important that we address them.</p> <p>22 You know, we do, I believe, need to consider having</p> <p>23 additional hearings around the state after the proposed</p> <p>24 maps come forward that are being considered by the</p> <p>25 committees. It is very difficult to get to Tallahassee and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 100</p> <p>1 There are no cameras here tonight, it is obviously on</p> <p>2 the transcript, but which ones are being taped for</p> <p>3 television and which ones are being shown, and how are we</p> <p>4 deciding which ones are being shown. Maybe that's</p> <p>5 something we can get an answer on.</p> <p>6 So, Mr. Chairman, again, thank you, and we appreciate</p> <p>7 you coming two days in a row to Palm Beach County and look</p> <p>8 forward to seeing you in committee.</p> <p>9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Now you know why we love him.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Representative Machek.</p> <p>11 REPRESENTATIVE MACHEK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I</p> <p>12 also appreciate the committee coming to Palm Beach County</p> <p>13 for two sessions. It is very important to South County</p> <p>14 that we had a meeting down here this evening so that our</p> <p>15 views could be heard and expressions put out there so that</p> <p>16 it will be on record for redistricting.</p> <p>17 I know it is going to be difficult when the lines,</p> <p>18 preliminary lines, are drawn to get this out to have more</p> <p>19 hearings to view this because we will be in session</p> <p>20 probably from January the 22nd, I imagine, for several</p> <p>21 months.</p> <p>22 But I think it is up to these representatives that</p> <p>23 represent the state of Florida to bring back to their</p> <p>24 constituents the progress that is being made during the</p> <p>25 redistricting process in Tallahassee. And I'll assure you</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 99</p> <p>1 I think people locally want to hear more about this, and</p> <p>2 want to have more input.</p> <p>3 I think it is also important that we commit to</p> <p>4 guidelines, principles and standards for the consideration</p> <p>5 of the drawing of the districts so when people have their</p> <p>6 own software they can use those same standards and</p> <p>7 principles to understand what rules they are supposed to be</p> <p>8 using in drawing these districts, and when they see what we</p> <p>9 are doing, they can do the same thing.</p> <p>10 We talked about more districts based in Palm Beach</p> <p>11 County. We are the third largest county in the state right</p> <p>12 now. And certainly having two Senators out of six of us,</p> <p>13 we want to have more, and we welcome the ones we have right</p> <p>14 now, we want them to stay with us, but we would like to</p> <p>15 have more representation.</p> <p>16 I think somebody mentioned minority undercounts and</p> <p>17 how do we compensate for that because there were</p> <p>18 undercounts in the census, and making sure there is a</p> <p>19 fairness standard that's applied to that.</p> <p>20 And I guess the other thing that was asked, I'll just</p> <p>21 put it out there and maybe we can get an answer for this,</p> <p>22 and that is, there was a question asked about how are</p> <p>23 certain hearings being, how is it being determined that</p> <p>24 certain hearings are being televised, which ones are being</p> <p>25 televised.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 101</p> <p>1 that that's what I will be doing for my district is staying</p> <p>2 in touch.</p> <p>3 And I'm sure with the FREDs system in our computers</p> <p>4 able to tie everyone in, everyone able to tie into it that</p> <p>5 there will be some progress made there so we can keep up</p> <p>6 with it.</p> <p>7 Again, I appreciate everybody coming. It was a long</p> <p>8 meeting, but it was a meeting we needed. And I do thank</p> <p>9 you again for this.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. Representative Gannon.</p> <p>11 REPRESENTATIVE GANNON: I want to thank Mr. Chairman.</p> <p>12 I know that Senator Klein and I both worked very hard to</p> <p>13 get this meeting in South County because we thought it was</p> <p>14 important for our constituents. As you can see they</p> <p>15 believed in us and showed up to testify about their beliefs</p> <p>16 and the whole reapportionment process.</p> <p>17 I also want to thank our staff who worked very hard to</p> <p>18 organize some of this and to let people know this was</p> <p>19 occurring tonight because the notice in the newspaper</p> <p>20 really wasn't very good. And we should do better at that,</p> <p>21 and we can do better.</p> <p>22 I'm not just concerned about standards and guidelines</p> <p>23 for the people who are going to use the computer program, I</p> <p>24 would actually like them too so I can figure out when I</p> <p>25 play with the program what kind of standards and guidelines</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>

1 I need to use to be able to redraw my district.

2 Some of them I understand as compactness, willing to
3 give up some of my district since I have 40,000 more
4 people, but I believe that we don't have those in writing
5 and they would be very productive to me personally to be
6 able to use those.

7 The other issue is I want to thank everyone for coming
8 to Palm Beach County, and to extend an invitation to many
9 of you who have never been in Delray Beach, which frankly
10 is the best-run city in Florida. And the redevelopment
11 effort we have done in the last ten years in Delray Beach
12 is something that many of you can look at and take back to
13 your community. And I would like to extend that invitation
14 to you tonight to go down to Lang Avenue and walk around.
15 Many of the restaurants are still open and many of us have
16 not eaten dinner tonight. Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Representative Ryan.

18 REPRESENTATIVE RYAN: Mr. Chairman, we have now
19 reached the halfway point in our public hearing schedule.
20 And I think it has been shown that your decision to allow a
21 second hearing here in Palm Beach County was well worth it.
22 The attendance was very large and the number of legislators
23 here that are interested in the process, it is clear that
24 everybody continues to have a keen interest in this
25 redistricting process.

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1 And I also wanted to say thank you that you recognized
2 the need to have a second hearing in Broward County. That
3 has been confirmed that we will have two hearings there.
4 With 1.6 million people there are many people that want to
5 be heard in Broward County.

6 A recurring theme was heard tonight, and I think you
7 have heard it in the previous public hearings. And that is
8 that we legislators need to be logical when we redraw these
9 district lines. And the need for standards, the need for
10 objective criteria is essential both for us to draw the
11 lines and for meaningful participation by the public. And
12 we have to be able to balance the various issues of
13 communities of interest, of cities small and large that
14 want to have representation. And we need to be compact
15 when we can in light of the other issues and criteria that
16 we need to evaluate in a balancing approach.

17 I have come to realize that our constituents around
18 this state are very sophisticated in their ability to be
19 involved in the process, but they have the tools and we
20 need to tell them the rules. If we want to get them
21 involved in a meaningful way, then the sooner that we
22 establish the criteria, the quicker they will be able to
23 communicate with their Representatives, their Senators and
24 give us the information that we can convey to our
25 colleagues when we debate the district lines.

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1 So I am hoping that we will get a definitive statement
2 at some point about the criteria that we will utilize as we
3 go through this process. And I do appreciate, again, that
4 you have expanded the hearing schedule and recognize that
5 the Legislature is keenly aware of this process, its
6 influence and effect on the future of this state.

7 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you. I would like to say one
9 thing. I know there have been several questions by the
10 public and I have preferred to, based on my experience over
11 two reapportionment hearings or times in '82 and '92, I
12 have chosen to follow the course that I am on. And that is
13 to listen to the public first, and I will tell you because
14 the public wasn't listened to last time.

15 While the plan was supported by some of the members of
16 this panel, I did not support the plan. I spoke against
17 the plan for reasons like the way Representative Machek's
18 district looks and other things that happened, including
19 the shipping of our census data to a political operative in
20 Washington, D.C., to draw the plan, not having heard the
21 testimony, not having heard anything, he just did the plan.

22 And then there were those that voted for that. It was
23 testified even and confirmed by the federal court that the
24 standards that were used in the last plan were -- there
25 were no standards. That's why the districts looked the way

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1 they did is because there were no standards. That's why
2 the state was butchered, and that's why I voted against
3 that plan. It is a horrible plan.

4 So what I have said is, Let's listen to the public
5 first, let's listen to what they have to say.

6 Now, as I explained last night to Representative
7 Harper, he is a member of the House. I don't know -- I
8 know pretty much the rules of the House, I guess I should.
9 But I do know that every member has a vote and every member
10 has an opportunity to file either a joint resolution or a
11 bill, if it is a congressional district.

12 We in the Senate have a rule that says if you don't do
13 an interim project as a committee there is no committee
14 bill. I haven't decided whether I am going to file a bill
15 or not. I don't know whether I will or not. People are
16 clamoring for a bill. If you believe that you should draw
17 it and cut out the testimony of the Panhandle, or South
18 Florida that we haven't been to, Southwest Florida that we
19 haven't been to, if you believe that, draw your plan. Go
20 ahead and do it and present it.

21 But I believe, like I believed ten years ago, that we
22 need to listen to what the public has to say. I'm not here
23 to draw -- you know, I'm not sure -- I don't even know
24 exactly where Lake Worth is. And I don't know exactly
25 where Boynton Beach is. I'm not here to do that. I don't

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 106</p> <p>1 think anyone on this panel could ever accuse me of not 2 trying to do as much as I could to be as fair as I could. 3 And the reason I say that is this, I believe that I am 4 here as a regional person. I want to know, does this 5 county have commonality with Broward County? Does 6 St. Lucie County have commonality with Indian River County 7 or Palm Beach County? And I am hearing things like that. 8 That's what I am listening for. 9 When it comes down to drawing the plan, when it comes 10 down to dividing Boynton Beach, I'm going to hold you 11 responsible. If you want to divide it, then divide it. If 12 you don't, don't. But don't -- it is not going to be me 13 drawing that portion of the plan. When it comes down to 14 carving up cities and carving up little areas between 15 different things, that's going to be the responsibility of 16 the members. 17 So as far as the testimony, if you want to influence 18 the plan in the Senate, then you had better contact your 19 local Representative or Senator -- your local Senator. 20 Because if they want to be a part of the process, they can. 21 And I intend to do that. 22 Therefore, the plan itself is not going to be done as 23 a committee bill and all of a sudden there is some, quote, 24 majority bill. It is going to be a collection of all of 25 this information that we have gotten from the public, DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 108</p> <p>1 So there is a picture, hopefully, of the picture of 2 what we are going to do and how inclusive we are going to 3 be and how we are not going to be like we were ten years 4 ago. 5 The meeting is adjourned. 6 (Hearing adjourned at 9:10 p.m.) 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 107</p> <p>1 including the rest of it. And then if I do file a bill, 2 that's what I would file, based on what I heard. 3 But also that plan as far as the individual dividing 4 of the small areas, there is no one that knows it better 5 than the people from that area. I may think, here are the 6 regions, and I may establish those, I don't know. 7 But when it comes down to dividing those particular 8 small areas, I'm going to look to the members. I am going 9 to try, as I did in the House, to push to make this a 10 member-driven process, and push the decisions down to the 11 membership and not through one, big bill that pops out at 12 the last minute, as it did last time. 13 I'll tell you how long I had to look at the plan that 14 was passed, I knew I should vote against it, I had one day, 15 two days. But the second day began at 12:01 midnight, 16 that's when we convened. And we voted on the plan at 3:30 17 in the morning. 18 That's the way it worked last time. It is not going 19 to work that way this time. We are going to have plenty of 20 notice, we are going to have plenty of opportunity for the 21 members to sell whatever they did to their constituents or 22 offer their position. And if they get 21 votes in the 23 Senate, it will become the majority position, regardless if 24 it is Republicans or Democrats or both together putting it 25 together. That's what will determine what they have. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 109</p> <p>1 CERTIFICATE 2 STATE OF FLORIDA: 3 County OF LEON: 4 I, JULIE L. DOHERTY, Court Reporter, certify that I 5 was authorized to and did stenographically report the 6 foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true and 7 complete record of my stenographic notes. 8 9 DATED this ____ day of _____, 2001. 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675</p>